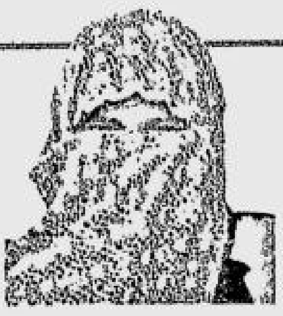
METRO/ A17

DPWH starts tearing down billboards with oversized ads along Edsa today



NEWS / A2

RP to deport wife of Indonesian terrorist suspect

BUSINESS / B1

Asia stocks tumble on A-bomb test

WORLD / A20

$1-M reward to catch Russian journalist's killer

5-yr-old wants to beat US swimmer's record

YUNG MAGULANG NA LANG ANG LUMANGOY!

By Jolene R. Bulambot
Inquirer Visayas

CEBU CITY—AFTER SUCcessfully crossing the Mactan Channel, 5-year-old Justin Daniel Junio wants to challenge the record set by a

5-YR-OLD/ A4

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Tuesday, October 10, 2006 ★★ 4 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 304 P18 website: www.inq7.net

Town banks on 262 types of red, purple, white rice

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

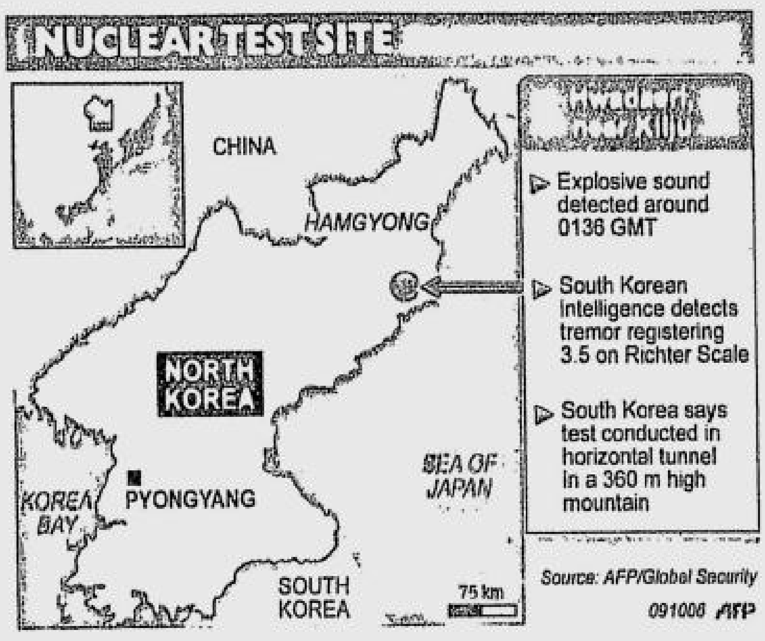
NEITHER COLORFUL CORALS NOR EXOTIC FISH can be found in the sanctuary nurtured in the town of Bilar, 41 kilometers northeast of Tagbilaran City in Bohol.

Instead, the fifth-class municipality boasts of 262 varieties of rice that come in different shades

TOWN PLANTS/ A8

N. Korea nuclear blast stuns world

US, China condemn new security threat


NUCLEAR TEST SITE
CHINA
HAMGYONG
NORTH KOREA
PYONGYANG
KOREA BAY
SEA OF JAPAN
SOUTH KOREA
75 km
Explosive sound detected around 0136 GMT
South Korean intelligence detects tremor registering 3.5 on Richter Scale
South Korea says test conducted in horizontal tunnel in a 360 m high mountain

Source: AFP/Global Security
091006 AFP

SEOUL—DEFYING WORLDwide appeals and threats of sanctions, North Korea on Monday boasted it had performed its first-ever nuclear weapons test, which would confirm it had a working atomic bomb as it had long claimed.

Pyongyang said the underground test was carried out successfully "with indigenous wisdom and technology 100 percent," and that no radiation leaked from the test site.

There were conflicting reports on the size of the blast. South Korea said it was relatively small, while Russia said it had been perhaps as powerful as the nuclear bombs the United States dropped on Japan during World War II.

The North Korean announcement sparked condemnation from governments around the world, which said it could seriously destabilize the region. Even North Korea's ally China condemned the move as "brazen."

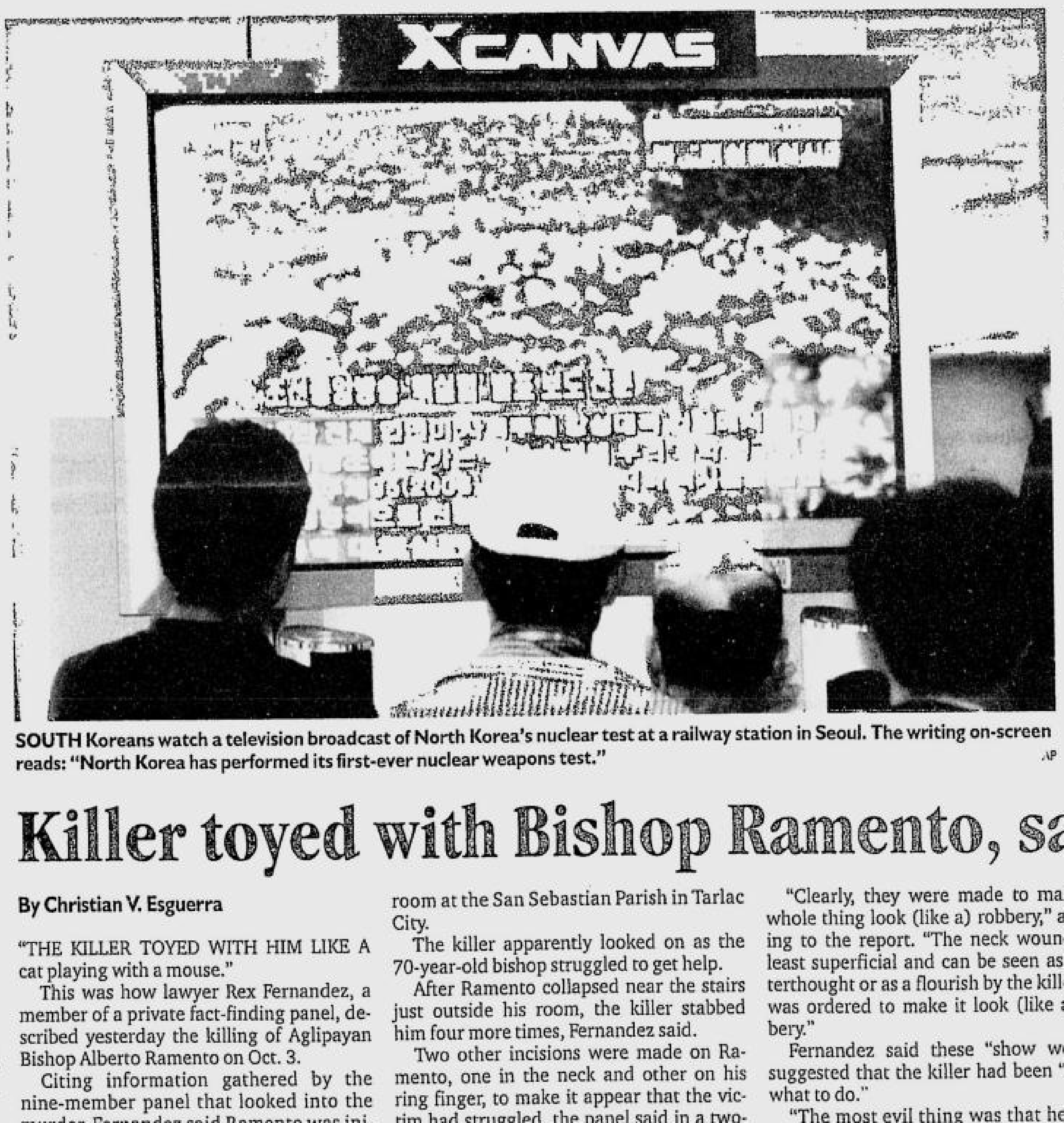
Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo said the North Korean action posed a threat to regional security. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said the test would mark the beginning of a "dangerous nuclear age" in north Asia.

The United States called for immediate UN Security Council action and, along with Japan, was expected to press for more sanctions on Pyongyang.

If details of the test are confirmed, North Korea would be the ninth country known to have nuclear weapons, along with the United States, Russia, France, China, Britain, India, Pakistan and Israel.

A nuclear North Korea would dramatically alter the strategic balance of power in the Pacific region and seriously undermine global anti-proliferation efforts.

N. KOREA/ A6



SOUTH Koreans watch a television broadcast of North Korea's nuclear test at a railway station in Seoul. The writing on-screen reads: "North Korea has performed its first-ever nuclear weapons test." AP

Nuke arms race looms over Asia

SEOUL—THE SPECTER OF AN ASIAN nuclear arms race loomed over the region on Monday after communist North Korea shocked the world by announcing it had conducted its first-ever nuclear test.

Officials from Washington to Seoul were warning of a possible arms race even before North Korea's claim that it had joined the elite club of nuclear powers.

South Korean Vice Foreign Minister Yu Myung-hwan said a nuclear North Korea could give Japan a "pretext" to go nuclear next, triggering countermoves by suspicious Asian neighbors in a cascade that upends regional security.

"There's no equalizer like the bomb," said Peter Beck, head of the Seoul office of the International Crisis Group think tank. "It's safe to say it will lead to an arms race—will push all the governments in the region to increase defense spending."

Nuclear arms in the hands of Pyongyang

NUKE ARMS/ A6

Killer toyed with Bishop Ramento, say probers

By Christian V. Esguerra

"THE KILLER TOYED WITH HIM LIKE A cat playing with a mouse."

This was how lawyer Rex Fernandez, a member of a private fact-finding panel, described yesterday the killing of Aglipayan Bishop Alberto Ramento on Oct. 3.

Citing information gathered by the nine-member panel that looked into the murder, Fernandez said Ramento was initially stabbed twice while asleep in his room at the San Sebastian Parish in Tarlac City.

The killer apparently looked on as the 70-year-old bishop struggled to get help.

After Ramento collapsed near the stairs just outside his room, the killer stabbed him four more times, Fernandez said.

Two other incisions were made on Ramento, one in the neck and other on his ring finger, to make it appear that the victim had struggled, the panel said in a two-page report.

"Clearly, they were made to make the whole thing look (like a) robbery," according to the report. "The neck wound is at least superficial and can be seen as an afterthought or as a flourish by the killer who was ordered to make it look (like a) robbery."

Fernandez said these "show wounds" suggested that the killer had been "taught what to do."

"The most evil thing was that he really

KILLER/ A13

Another Aglipayan priest slain

By Bert Pacate
Inquirer Mindanao

TANDAG, SURIGAO DEL Sur—Barely a week after the murder of a leader of the Aglipayan church, a priest of the congregation was shot and hacked dead as he left his house to perform his usual Sunday service, police said.

Three men wearing bonnets attacked Fr. Dionisio Gingging, 53, just outside his house in Bajao in Tago town, said Senior Supt. Alex Ga, the provincial police director.

"The victim was shot first several times and even if he was already dead, the culprits hacked him," Ga said.

The motive for the killing was not immediately known, but Gregg Neil Tolentino, the priest's associate in a small logging business here, said it could be business-related.

Tolentino said the priest owned a four-hectare timberland, which many loggers were interested in.

Chief Supt. Antonio Nanas told The Associated Press the murder might have been prompted by a personal grudge. "It appears the killers hated the priest by the way they killed him," Nanas said.

Surigao del Sur Gov. Vicente Pimentel condemned the killing, saying "this kind of lawlessness

ANOTHER/ A13

BOXER Mansueto "Onyok" Velasco carries a Philippine flag on his way to winning an Olympic silver medal in Atlanta. INQUIRER FILE

ROAD TO BEIJING

Winning Olympic gold still an elusive dream

By Musong R. Castillo

(Second of a series)

THE PHILIPPINES HASN'T THE slightest chance of winning a gold in the Beijing Olympics.

It's not going to happen in the summer of 2008, says Michael Keon, director of the hugely successful sports development program called Project: Gintong Alay that fell apart after the fall of Ferdinand Marcos in 1986.

The best and the brightest had gone into Gintong Alay. Had the project continued, there is no doubt the country's elusive dream of winning an Olympic gold would have been realized, according to sports commentators.

"One day, we'll win an Olympic gold medal, just like one day we eventually won the Southeast Asian Games," says Keon, 51.

-TEAM *Report*
Fernando del Mundo
Chief

But not in Beijing.

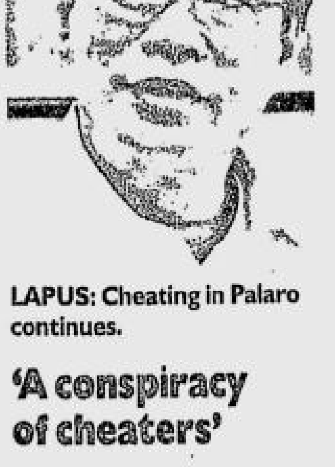
World sports powers start preparing for the next quadrennial even before the end of the one they are participating in, possibly even longer as they have pools of talents to tap in practically all sports.

That sort of chest thumping was heard following the Philippines' Southeast Asian Games triumph in December last year.

None of those "boastful claims" generated more excitement among the sports-following throng than the "Focus Sports" concept our leaders said would be strictly adhered to.

To date, that focus remains dim.

WINNING/ A8



LAPUS: Cheating in Palaro continues.

'A conspiracy of cheaters'

By Volt Contreras

PROTESTS ROCKED THE Palarong Pambansa this year, mainly initiated by parents who saw their adolescent children battling opponents whose winning streak had become as suspicious as their five-o'clock shadows.

One letter-complaint, for instance, said of some "elementary" baseball players from Eastern Visayas: "The

A CONSPIRACY/ A8

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will have mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms becoming frequent rains over Mindanao which may trigger flashfloods and landslides. The rest of Luzon will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

COMPILED BY KATE PEDROSO INQUIRER RESEARCH/10/09/06 SOURCE PAGASA

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Second FRONT PAGE

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

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NURSING EXAM: TO TAKE OR NOT TO RETAKE

Palace says it's labor dep't's call

By Christine O. Avendaño, Juliet Labog-Javellana and Philip C. Tubeza

IN A COMPLETE TURNAROUND, MALACAÑANG is now leaving it to the Department of Labor and Employment to decide on the fate of the nursing board exams controversy.

Presidential Chief of Staff Michael Defensor said yesterday that the DOLE and the Professional Regulation Commission would decide whether a retake of the June nursing licensure examination would be given.

"We will stand by their decision," Defensor said in a phone interview, denying rumors that the issue had become too hot for Malacañang to handle.

"We are not backing out. [But] the DOLE should be the one to work on policy direction regarding this particular case," he said.

Defensor said any decision made by Labor Secretary Arturo Brion would still be "Cabinet level." Brion would also "update" the President and her Cabinet "on the actions [the DOLE] would take."

In other developments:

- Sen. Panfilo Lacson, who reclaimed chairmanship of the Senate civil service committee investigation, said he was inviting to the Senate Dante Ang, who is chair of the Commission on Filipinos Overseas and Rene Luis Tadle who is president of the faculty association of the University of Sto. Tomas College of Nursing and the Alliance of New Nurses.

Ang, a member of the Cabinet group handling the controversy, was pushing for a retake of the entire exam after Tadle said that five nursing graduates came forward claiming they received leaked questions for Tests III (medical-surgical nursing) and V (psychiatric nursing).

Irresponsible allegations

- Administration Representatives Joel Mayo Almario (Lakas, Davao Oriental) and Douglas Cagas (NPC, Davao del Sur) condemned what they said were efforts to muddle the nursing exam leakage issue "in light of unsubstantiated and irresponsible allegations that the leakage was massive." They also urged stakeholders in the exam to support the final decision of Malacañang "because it is meant to protect the whole nursing profession."

Almario called for calm and sobriety among the nursing graduates and their families and to wait for the National Bureau of Investigation's final report on its investigation set for release on Friday.

- In Baguio City, nursing school deans offer free review sessions to licensure applicants who took the tainted June board examinations here.

University of the Philippines professor Erlinda Palaganas, a former governor of the Philippine Nurses Association, said the deans supported the 92 board examinees, who exposed the test leakage.

- In Dagupan City, board passers of the controversial 2006 nursing licensure examinations held a rally yesterday at the city plaza to protest President Macapagal-Arroyo's decision for a retake of the exams.

Black arm bands

Wearing black arm bands, the protestors, headed by topnotcher Gringo San Diego, were also supported by students of nursing schools from Dagupan and Baguio cities and other Pangasinan towns.

San Diego said the protesters were fighting for "no retake." He said Tests III and V of the board exams, which were allegedly leaked to review centers, were not included in the computation of the results. "So it should not be an issue anymore," he said.

- In Davao City, around 90 exam passers trooped yesterday to the NBI to sign a joint sworn statement saying that there was no leakage during the conduct of exams here.

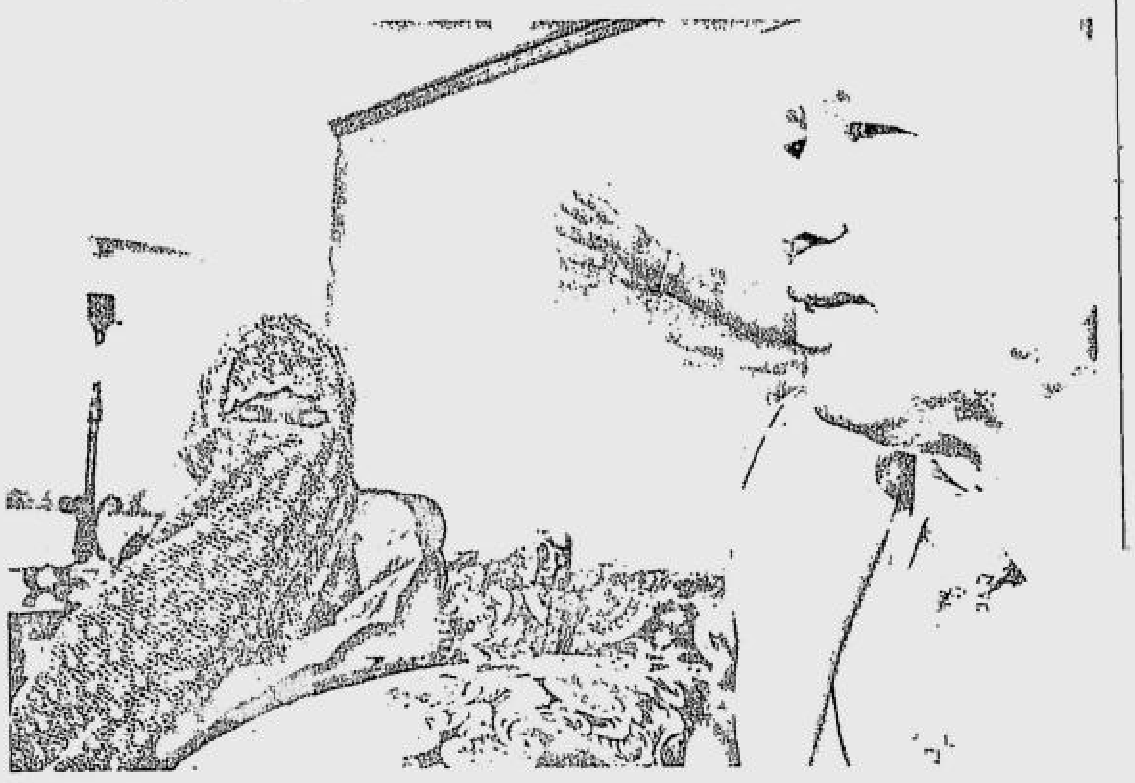
In Iligan City, passers of the June 2006 NLE remained firm in their position for a "no retake."

In a rally on Thursday, attended by about 200 board passers from Northern Mindanao, the protesters said the retake should only be held in areas where the leak occurred.

"Examinees from Northern Mindanao passed the examinations on their own effort. We did not benefit from any leak," Yasmine Latras, one of the protesters, told the INQUIRER. *With reports from Vincent Cabreza and Yolanda Sotelo-Fernandez, Inquirer Northern Luzon; Nico Alconaba and Ritchie Umel, Inquirer Mindanao*

RP to deport wife of Indon terror suspect

By Armand N. Nocum



GONZALEZ talks to reporters while Istiada Oemar Sovie listens at the Department of Justice Monday.

RYAN LIM

THE GOVERNMENT WILL DEport the wife of an Indonesian terror suspect as it decided against charging her with a crime since the country does not have an antiterrorism law.

In an interview, Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez said that instead of putting Istiada H. Oemar Sovie—the wife of wanted bomb expert Dulmatin—on trial, she and her two children will be sent back to Indonesia.

"The fact that she is the wife (of Dulmatin) does not necessarily make her guilty of terrorism. She admitted she was a member (of Jemaah Islamayah), yes, but we have no antiterrorism law. How can you attribute the bombings to her just because she admitted her husband was the one who trained the people in the MILF (Moro Islamic Liberation Front) to make bombs?" Gonzalez said.

Sovie, who admitted being a "jihadist" as the wife of a member of the Jemaah Islamiyah regional terror group, was initially quoted as saying she preferred to go to jail in Manila rather than be deported.

But after a closed-door meeting with her at the Department of Justice yesterday, Gonzalez told reporters Sovie would be deported in about three weeks after the military was through interrogating her.

Gonzalez quoted Sovie as telling him Dulmatin "will fight it out till the last."

"She told me straight her husband will not surrender," he said.

"I told her, 'You came here to seek refuge in the Philippines because you are being hunted in Indonesia, why are you fighting us?' She said 'Because the JI is fighting those who stand by America,'" Gonzalez told reporters.

Sovie was captured last Tuesday in Patikul, Sulu, by military and immigration officials. She confirmed that Dulmatin and another JI bomb expert, Umar Patek, were still hiding on Jolo, protected by the Abu Sayyaf terror group.

Dulmatin and Patek have been linked to the October 2002 nightclub bombings on the Indonesian resort island of Bali which killed 202 people, mostly Australian tourists.

Sovic arrived in Manila from Zamboanga yesterday at 9:20 a.m. via Philippine Airlines escorted by two agents of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (Isafp)

She was not in handcuffs and the group was met by a handful of military and police officers, as well as a representative from the DOJ, an airport official told the INQUIRER.

Dulmatin and Patek, who have bounties on their heads totaling $11 million offered by the US government, are currently the objects of a manhunt involving 5,000 Filipino troops backed by US intelligence personnel.

The Associated Press quoted two intelligence officials as saying that Sovie had told investigators that Dulmatin's students in covert terror training camps included members of the separatist MILF, which is engaged in peace talks with the government, and the Abu Sayyaf.

The intelligence officials, who had access to Sovie's interrogation report, spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak to the press.

The MILF has denied any links with JI or other terrorist groups, admitting only that some of its members may have ties to the groups on their own.

With reports from Nikko Dizon; AP; AFP

DOJ drops 'rebel' gov't prosecutor

By Armand N. Nocum

JUSTICE SECRETARY RAUL Gonzalez yesterday said Hazel Decena-Valdez was out of the five-man panel of state prosecutors handling the case of Subic rape victim "Nicole."

Valdez's position on how Nicole's prosecution should be handled was "incompatible with the rest of the panel, [so] Valdez should not be there anymore. Anyway there is no need for the panel ... even one prosecutor can handle this case," Gonzalez told reporters in an ambush interview at the Department of Justice.

He added that Valdez brought this upon herself. "How can she remain with the panel when her position is incompatible with the majority?"

Gonzalez also expressed his disapproval of Valdez's decision to join Nicole and her family in a press conference last week where the lawyer hit colleagues and the DOJ for doing away with the rebuttal without informing the complainant.

He also said Valdez did not heed calls to report to the DOJ last Friday.

"If she had time to talk to the other side, she should have [time] to talk to me because I'm her boss. Has she decided that she is now taking the side of those who are criticizing the Department of Justice? That is not how an employee should behave," he said.

Last week, Gonzalez justified the move of four DOJ prosecutors led by Senior State Prosecutor Emilie Fe de los Santos to do away with a rebuttal.

"The presentation of a rebuttal testimony can go either way because you are not sure what the defense, for example, has on a witness," he said.

"Let's take this particular case. The prosecution wants to recall agents from the NCIS (Naval Criminal Investigative Service)... Suppose they modify their testimony? You can never be 100 percent sure that because you call a witness, he will say something favorable," Gonzalez said.

The evidence presented by the prosecution was strong, he added.

"They assessed it, they thought it was OK and they decided not to disturb the findings anymore because it might actually do more harm than good. Why give the defense another opening to hit back at you?" Gonzalez said.

ANG NEGOSYO NA NAIS NYO!
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can sell as much as
30 types of e-PINS and e-LOADS
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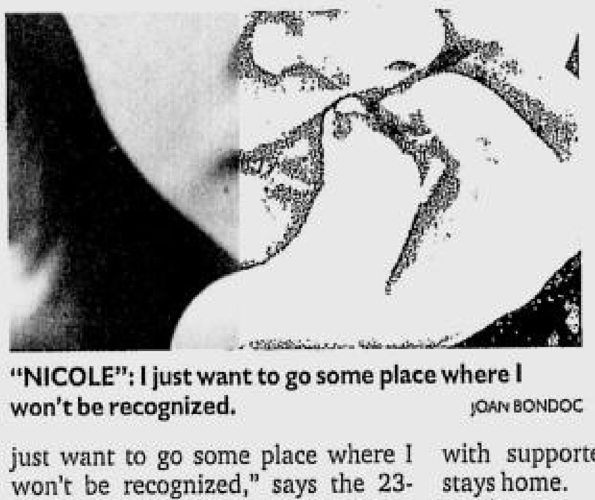
Nicole: I don't think I can ever show my face there (Zamboanga) again

By DJ Yap



"NICOLE": I just want to go some place where I won't be recognized.

JOAN BONDOC

"NICOLE" HAS NOT BEEN HOME for almost a year since that fateful night in Subic, when she was allegedly raped by a US Marine while his colleagues cheered on.

While the general public knows her only as Nicole, her true identity is no secret to her friends and neighbors in her hometown.

"I haven't set foot in Zamboanga since it happened. I don't think I can ever show my face there again," Nicole says in an interview last week in a Quezon City restaurant.

"My old friends and neighbors in my hometown have been asking about me," she continues in Filipino. "They're always asking my relatives when I'm coming home, or assuring my relatives that they aren't affected by what happened."

Among her friends, ironically enough, are American servicemen holding military exercises in Mindanao. Her mother has also been trying to convince her to go home.

"But even if she's forcing me to, I just can't bring myself to do it," Nicole says.

Now, her long term plans include immigrating to another country. "I just want to go some place where I won't be recognized," says the 23-year-old business graduate.

But "it's not going to be the United States," she says, although she has two aunts based there.

Nicole says her life changed after the incident: "If none of this had happened, I would probably be married now."

She was engaged to be married, but broke if off with her fiance because she did not want "to jeopardize the case."

Nicole recently celebrated her birthday with supporters from various women's groups who have rallied around her cause.

It was a fun gathering, she says, although if the incident had not happened, "I would be celebrating my birthday back home with my American friends."

These days, Nicole is staying in an undisclosed location in Metro Manila with her mother and two brothers. If not attending court hearings, which ended last week, she meets with supporters, exercises, or just stays home.

Like young women her age, Nicole finds time to go to bars and other gimmick places. "But I'm escorted everywhere by my brothers or my mother," she says.

"If my mother was not so strict with me before, now she's very strict," she says, adding that she does not mind her family's protectiveness.

The Subic rape case has been submitted for resolution before the sala of Makati Judge Benjamin Pozon. He will promulgate his decision on Nov. 27, a month before the case marks its first anniversary.

75% OF COST

European printer agrees to replace 'Arrovo bills'

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE EUROPEAN PRINTER THAT SUPPLIED the P100 "Arrovo bills" has agreed to shoulder the cost of replacing 75 percent of these defective banknotes, some of which slipped into circulation last Christmas, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas documents showed.

A memorandum of agreement between the BSP and contractor Francois Charles Oberthus Fiduciare (FCOF) is being finalized and will be submitted to a proper court in coordination with the Office of the Solicitor General.

The documents showed that 80 million of such defective banknotes—which misspelled President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's surname as "Arrovo"—were delivered, of which 2.092 million pieces were released for circulation before the error was discovered.

The BSP entered into a compromise with FCOF to share the cost of replacing the 77,908,400 uncirculated defective notes. BSP officials earlier said that if it would be proven that the error was the fault of the European contractor, the institution could seek just compensation.

For its part, the BSP has agreed to absorb the loss equivalent to the total printing cost of 19,477,100 pieces of 100-peso notes or 25 percent of the total defective notes.

Except for one box containing 50,000 pieces (50 bundles of 1,000 pieces/bundle) and 2.092 million pieces released for circulation, the BSP has already shredded the remaining notes in the vault of its cash department.

The remaining banknotes in circulation have become collector's items, selling for as high as P900 online at one point. The BSP has publicly apologized to the President for the error. It was the first time in Philippine history that such a printing error occurred.

The "Arrovo" notes left in circulation are still considered as legal tender.They are the first P100 notes that bear the signature of BSP Gov. Amando Tetangco Jr., who assumed office after Rafael Buenaventura finished his term in July last year.

Realtor scores newspaper ad besmirching his reputation

By Jerry E. Esplanada

A PROMINENT REALTOR HAS SCORED THE efforts of certain parties to besmirch his reputation with the publication of a two-page ad in the INQUIRER on Sept. 13.

Mariano A. Nocom decried the headline on the ad but did not dispute its contents which were the rulings that came out of a land case he was involved in.

The ad bore the headline "Muntinlupa RTC exposes modus operandi victimizing unsuspecting farmers/tenants by declaring Mariano Nocom's power of attorney as void ab initio for being contrary to law and public policy in a celebrated land case."

"That's foul. What modus operandi are they talking about? The ruling never said anything about any modus operandi," Nocom said.

Nocom's lawyer, Arturo Santos, said they were set to file libel charges against Great Wall Advertising, which had placed the ad in behalf of former tenant-farmers on the land in question and officers of Banco Filipino-controlled Springsun Management System Corp.

To be included in the charges are former tenants Oscar Camerino, Cornelio Mantele and Mildred del Rosario, Springsun chair Albert Aguirre, president Maxy Abad, executive vice president Aurora Sicam, vice president Nestor Aurellano, Jesus Salmorin and lawyers Carmelo Mendoza and Ma. Lualhati Cruz.

Nocom has also filed estafa charges against the same group for allegedly conspiring together against him.

The INQUIRER tried to contact the ex-tenants as well as the Springsun officers, to no avail.

Great Wall media manager Karen Torio told the INQUIRER by phone "a representative of a certain Oscar Camerino came to our office and paid for the ad placement in cash."

Nocom, who is in his late 70s, said he was the "victim, contrary to claims by the people behind that nasty ad," whom he assailed for "twisting the facts and resorting to dirty tactics like character assassination through mass media."

"Sadly, it's all because of money, if not greed," said Nocom, who is president of Columbia Airfreight Complex Corp., Firestone Ceramics Inc., Baclaran LRT Terminal Shopping Mall and Salem Investment Corp., among other firms.

Santos recalled that in January 1995, he "came to the rescue of (Oscar and Efren Camerino, Nolasco del Rosario, Cornelio Mantele and Domingo Enriquez) who were being evicted from the 30-ha property in Barangay Tunasan, Muntinlupa, they had been tilling since 1967 by its new owner, Springsun Management System Corp."

Without notifying the tenants, Victoria Homes Inc., the former owner of the land, had sold it to Springsun for P9.79 million.

Springsun then mortgaged the property with Banco Filipino for P11.5 million, which it failed to pay, resulting in a foreclosure sale where the bank emerged as the highest bidder.

In behalf of the tenants who had been evicted from the property, Santos pursued a civil case with the Muntinlupa Regional Trial Court. He asked the RTC to let the tenants redeem the land for the same amount Springsun paid to Victoria Homes.

On Jan. 25, 2002, the court ruled in favor of the tenants, allowing them to pay the redemption price and ordering Springsun to vacate the premises.

Camerino and company on Dec. 17, 2003, sold and assigned their rights to the property to Nocom for P500,000 each.

The tenants then issued the corresponding deed of assignment and irrevocable power of attorney in favor of Nocom.

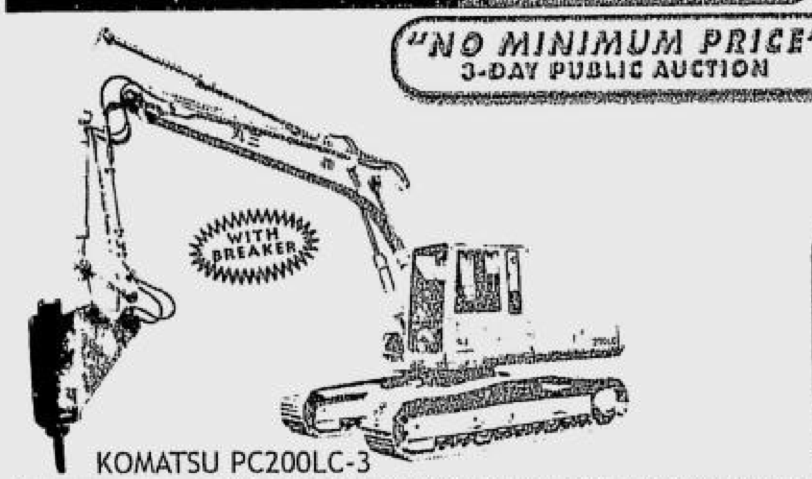
Springsun filed a motion for reconsideration, which the Court of Appeals denied. The firm then filed a petition for review with the Supreme Court which affirmed the CA ruling on Jan. 19, 2005. On Sept. 6, 2005, the high court's First Division denied a reconsideration of the CA decision with finality.

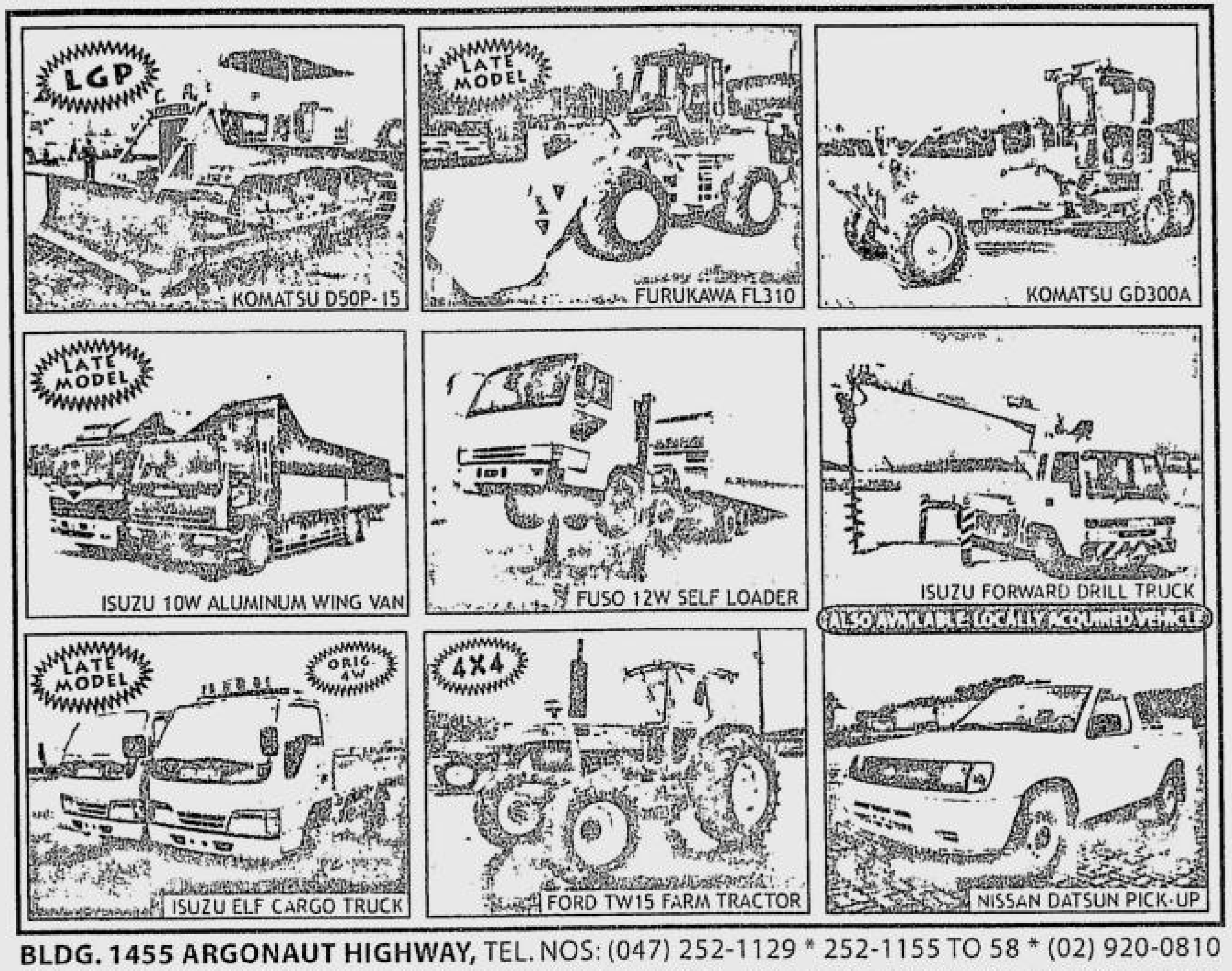
Santos said Nocom's troubles began after he paid the P9.79-million redemption price.

Aside from deploying guards to prevent Nocom's takeover of the property, Springsun "dangled P300,000 each before [the tenants] which [they] found difficult to resist."

Springsun also succeeded in persuading the tenants to file a civil case to cancel Nocom's power of attorney.

Without a trial, Muntinlupa RTC Judge Pedro Sabundayo Jr. last June 15 nullified Nocom's power of attorney. This prompted the realtor to bring the case to the Court of Appeals.





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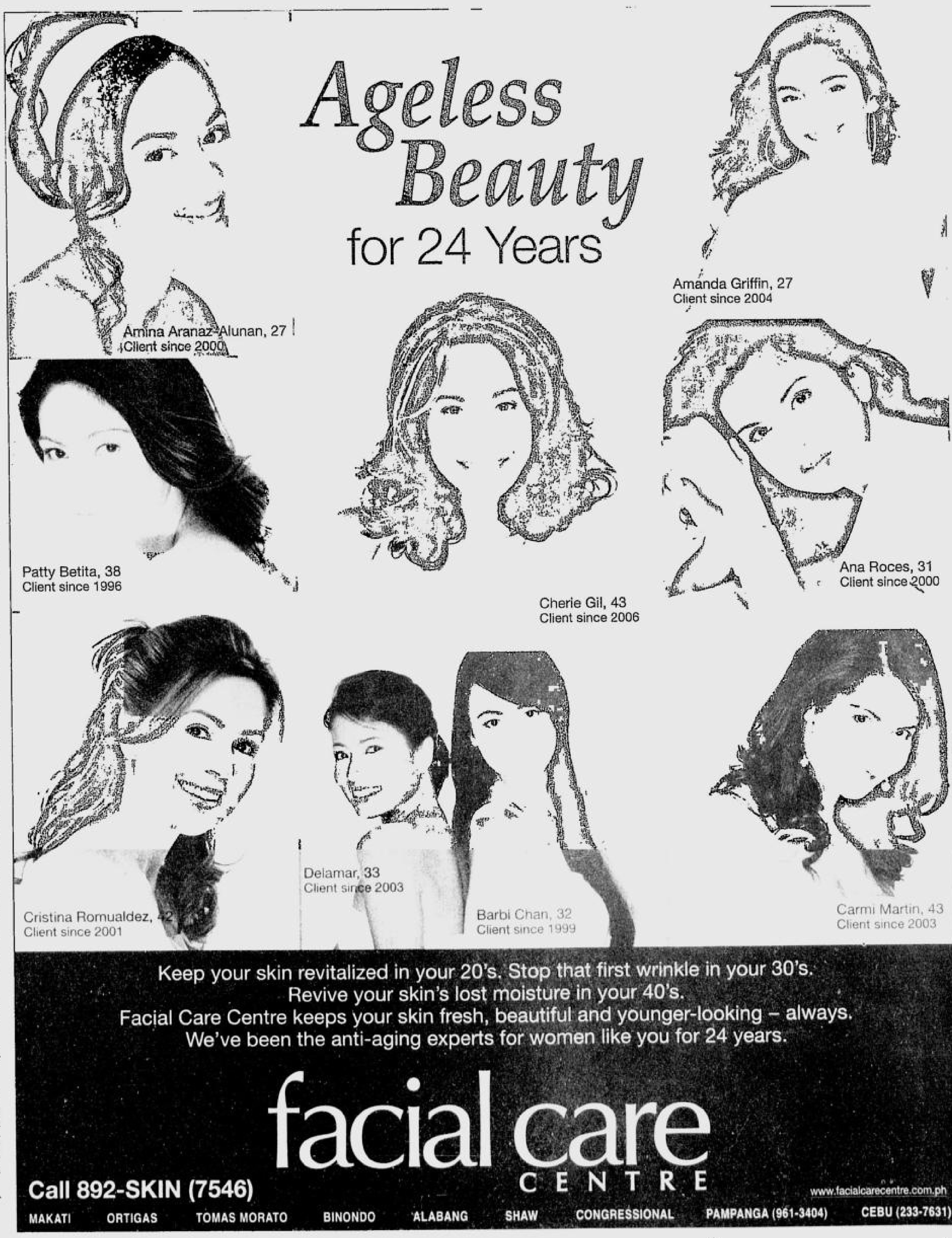

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A Power & Water Crisis MUST be Averted

ROTATING BROWNOUTS MAY BE EXPERIENCED FROM NOVEMBER 18 TO DECEMBER 17.

The Department of Energy **(DOE)** announced that the **2,700 MW** gas-fired plants in Batangas will be shut down due to the scheduled maintenance of the **Malampaya Natural Gas Pipeline.** As a result, the NPC will have to dispatch the more expensive Malaya Oil fired decommissioned power plant which will result in higher prices in the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market **(WESM)** trading floor.

On the other hand, the Consumer & Oil Price Watch **(COPW)** is pleased with the announcement and assurance to the general public from **First Gas** Vice Chairman Peter Garrucho, Jr. that the **1,500 MW** of power generated by the Santa Rita & San Lorenzo Plants will **NOT shut down** and will continue to deliver power as **their plants are designed to operate on substitute fuel.**

On August 11, the **600 MW Mirant Sual** coal-fired plant in Pangasinan broke down and will take **6-8 months to repair**. This coincided with the scheduled maintenance of a **350 MW** Mirant coal-fired plant in Pagbilao, Quezon, forcing NPC to run the more expensive bunker fuel & diesel plants.

These 2 related incidents in a span of 2 months is a wake-up call for the DOE and related agencies on a LOOMING POWER CRISIS THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED IMMEDIATELY.

COPW has proposed to the Office of the President thru the Head of the Presidential Management Staff, Arthur Yap, to **convene an urgent meeting on power to avert a power crisis and the need for a moratorium in the digging of new deep wells** by industry, subdivisions & golf courses **to conserve our water reserves** based on the following concerns:

4,438 MW NEW POWER PLANTS NEEDED IN NEXT 5 YEARS

1. Based on the Philippine Energy Plan 2005, the system peak demand is expected to increase from 9,827 MW in 2005 to 14,265 MW in 2010 and it takes 5 years to build a NEW power plant.
2. In addition, ***3,400 MW of power generated by OLD plants have been retired.*** These plants are expensive to operate as they use oil or diesel. The rest have to be sold as scrap.
3. Privatization only ***transfers the ownership of the assets to the private sector but does not add to the generating capacity*** - as most of the potential investors of Napocor Privatization have indicated that they would prefer to buy existing NPC or NPC-IPP plants with a power supply contract.
4. ***To date only 65 MW*** (25 MW Northwind & PNOC-EDC) wind power plant is under construction. ***This is far from the goal of 4,438 in 2010.***

We Call on the Executive & Legislative Branches of Government to amend the EPIRA Law before Congress goes on recess on December 15 in order to avert a power crisis.

COPW proposes the following amendments to encourage both local and foreign investors to bring in the much needed capital ***to construct new*** power plants to generate the additional ***4,438 MW needed by our country in the next 5 years:***

1. ***Privatize TRANSCO by granting the winning bidder a 25-year Congressional franchise to operate.***
    - Investors are reluctant to bid for Transco unless they secure a 25-year congressional franchise to operate.
    - ***Power of Eminent Domain.*** Investors want an assurance that the Government can exercise its power of eminent domain over lands to build transmission lines, in the same way that it was able to successfully handle the right of way in the North Rail Transit.
2. ***Lower the target for NPC asset privatization from 70% to 50% for NPC Owned Plants and the transfer of management & control of NPC- IPP plants to IPP Administrators.***
    - For ***residential consumers with an aggregate power demand of 750 kW to purchase directly from WESM*** to avail of lower prices of electricity in the same manner that industrial & commercial users whose demand was 1 MW and up were the first to avail of the benefits of WESM.
3. ***Make the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) truly independent so its decisions will NOT be subject to review by the courts.*** To address this problem, COPW recommends that once ERC makes a ruling, it must be made public and allow the affected parties 90 days to appeal such decision beyond which it can no longer be reversed by the courts.
4. ***To encourage local & foreign investors to participate in the bidding of power projects, the privatization process must be guided by the principle of flexibility, transparency and the creation of a level playing field for all participants in the process.*** Prequalification requirements should ensure that the bidding groups possess sufficient operational and financial capability.

COPW Commitment to the Consuming Public

In the light of the above developments, COPW will work closely with the Department of Energy and its various related agencies to monitor closely:

1. ***The schedule of maintenance of all power plants*** to avoid the use of oil-fired power plants using diesel that will result in an increase in power rates in the WESM.
2. That all NEW power plants ***meet the agreed milestone dates of completion.***

For online posting of COPW issues, log on to http://groups.yahoo.com/group/COPW/

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5-yr-old wants to beat US swimmer

From page A1

7-year-old American boy who became the youngest swimmer in May to cross the 2.25-kilometer stretch between Alcatraz Island and San Francisco, California.

Justin, who on Sunday swam about 6 km for almost two hours, yesterday said he could break the record of Braxton Bilbrey.

"*Ako ang mas magaling. Eh kasi,* 2.25 km *lang 'yung kay* Braxton. *Sa akin,* I swam 6 km. *Ako talaga ang magaling* (I'm better than Braxton because he swam 2.25 km while I did 6 km)," the boy chuckled when the INQUIRER interviewed him over the phone.

Going to US

Ma. Vilena, Justin's mother, yesterday said the family was considering going to the United States and challenging Bilbrey to a swimming match, not just the American's record, if someone would finance their trip, accommodations and Justin's training.

"If we go to the United States, my son has to be trained for the weather and water temperature. The weather and water temperature there are different and Justin needs a suit for that. We are afraid he may suffer from hypothermia if he does not train there," she told the INQUIRER yesterday.

Asked how Justin was doing after his feat in the Mactan Channel, the mother said her son had shown no signs of fatigue.

In fact, Justin swam in the pool at the hotel where the family was staying just hours after he completed his Mactan Channel challenge, she said.

Vilena said she and Justin were scheduled to fly back to Manila on Oct. 15 to visit his medical team at the Philippine General Hospital.

Grateful

Yesterday, Justin, accompanied by his parents, paid courtesy calls on military commanders of the Central Command and Philippine Air Force, as well as on the mayors of the cities of Lapu-Lapu, Mandaue and Cebu, according to his father Florencio, a retired Air Force colonel.

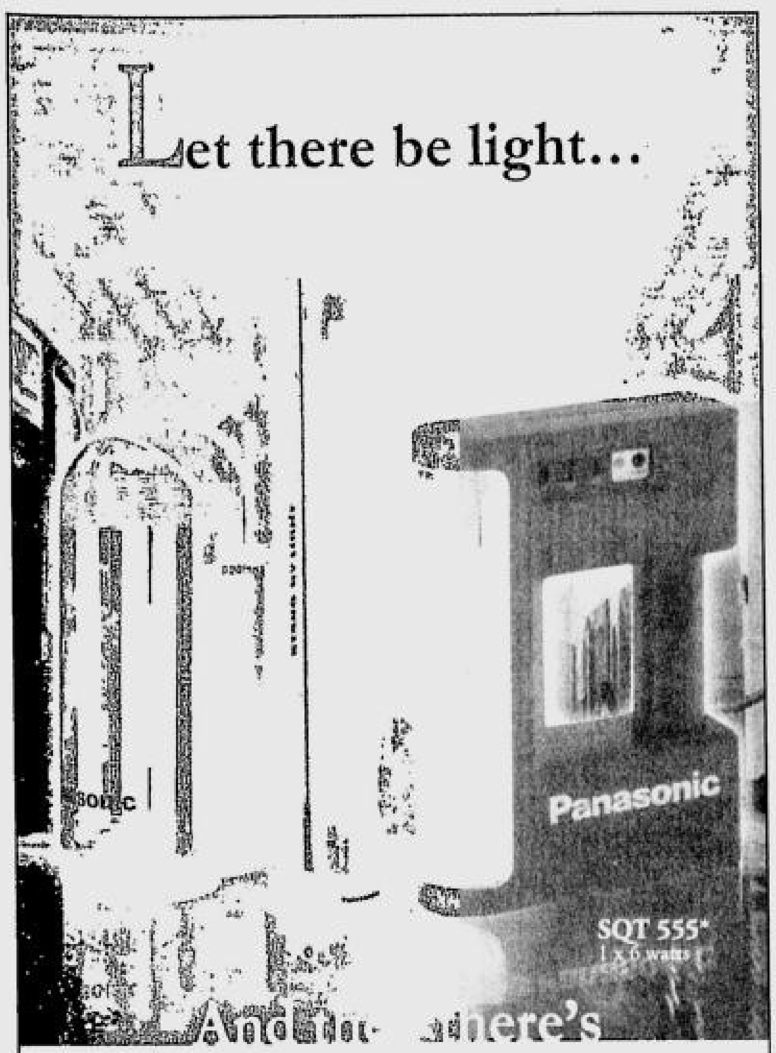
Florencio said his family wanted to show their gratitude to the Cebuanos for their hospitality.

He said his family was planning to live in Cebu because he had retired from the service and must move out of Villamor Air Base in Pasay City.

He said he preferred to settle here because the pollution and traffic congestion were less, and the food and other basic facilities cheaper than in Metro Manila.

Justin has to continue his training in Cebu if the family decides to permanently stay here, according to Florencio.

However, Justin has to go back to Manila because his coach, MSgt. Jairulla Jaitulla is based there, he said.



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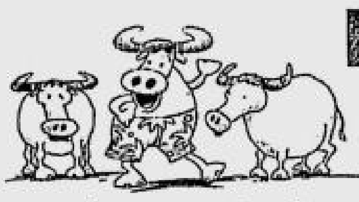

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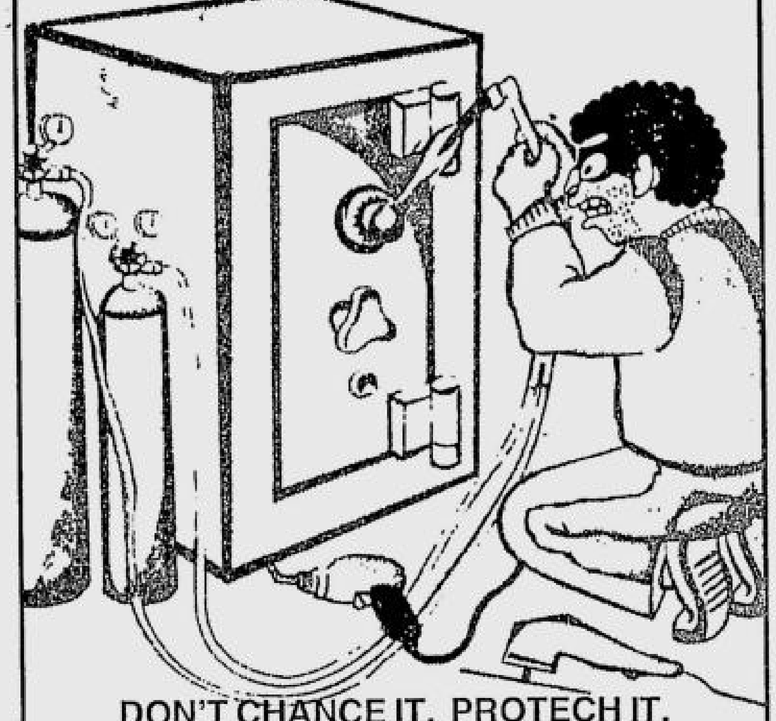

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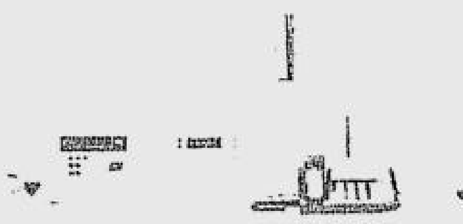

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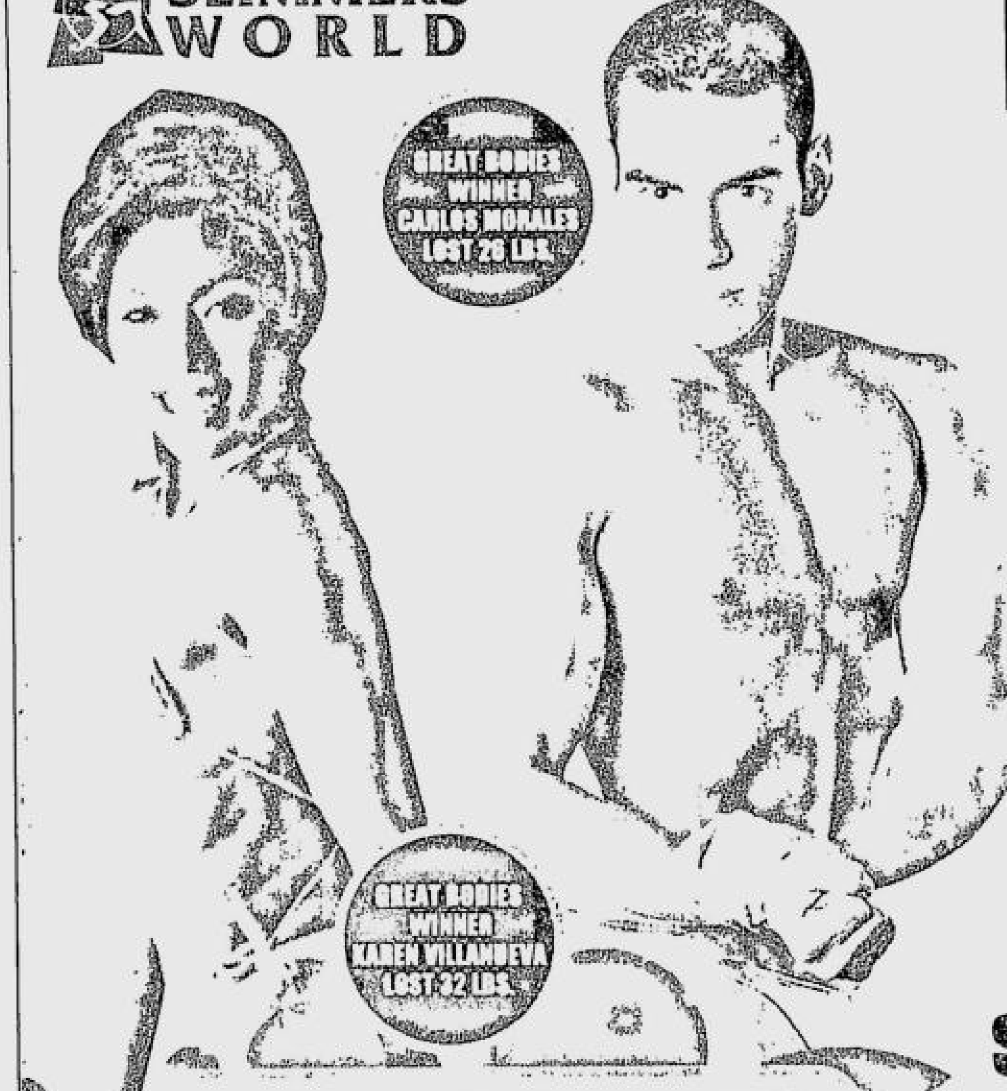
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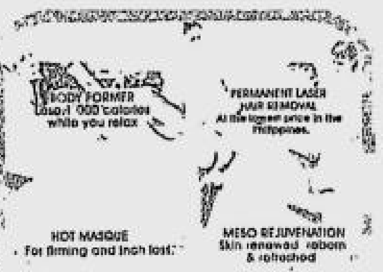
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Kim Jong-il deepens Pyongyang's isolation

SEOUL—NORTH KOREA'S reported nuclear test is not the first time Kim Jong Il has provoked the world and dismayed even his closest allies.

Since inheriting power in 1994, Kim has solidified his international reputation as an unpredictable leader whose intransigence has deepened North Korea's isolation.

Abroad, many consider the pudgy, bouffant-haired Kim a ruthless dictator who seeks atomic weapons while starving his people.

But at home, the state-run media hails the "Dear Leader" as a prodigious general, an ace film director and the "Lodestar of the 21st Century."

Kim's latest nuclear standoff with the world stretches back to 2002 when Washington accused North Korea of developing a secret nuclear weapons program in violation of an earlier agreement. That year, US President George W. Bush branded the communist country part of an "axis of evil," along with Iraq and Iran.

Kim's fears

Kim, 64, has since taken North Korea on an increasingly confrontational path, withdrawing from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, and culminating in Monday's claim of nuclear weapons test.

Nuclear weapons give North Korea an unparalleled deterrent from attack, something Kim has increasingly feared after watching the United States invade Iraq and topple Saddam Hussein.

The West's demonic image of Kim, however, goes back years before he took power. It is based in part on suspicions that he masterminded a 1983 terrorist bombing in Myanmar that killed 17 South Korean officials and the 1987 bombing of a South Korean airliner that killed all 115 people aboard.

Military first

Kim has ruled his impoverished country with a "military first" policy since the 1994 death of his father and North Korea's founder, Kim Il Sung.

He controls the world's fifth largest military, the 1.1 million-strong People's Army.

If confirmed, North Korea's nuclear test would add atomic strike power its formidable but aging arsenal of chemical, biological and conventional weapons.

Biographical insight on Kim is extremely sketchy. He rarely appears in public and his voice is seldom broadcast. But defectors from North Korea describe him as an eloquent and tireless orator, primarily to military units that form the base of his support. *AP*

N. Korea nuclear blast stuns world

From page A1

With a population of 23 million, North Korea is an impoverished, isolated country heavily dependent on foreign aid, especially from China, to feed its people.

More than a half-century after the end of the 1950-53 Korean War, the North remains an enduring source of tension and unpredictability for the region. During the Korean War, Gen. Douglas MacArthur wanted to use nuclear bombs against it.

'Great leap forward'

Since the mid-1990s, it has been suffering from power and food shortages. Natural disasters and mismanagement have devastated its economy and led to a famine believed to have killed some 2 million people.

Regional markets were rattled by the reported test. The news sparked plunges in South Korea's stocks and its currency, the won. Share prices also fell in Hong Kong, Sydney, Singapore and elsewhere.

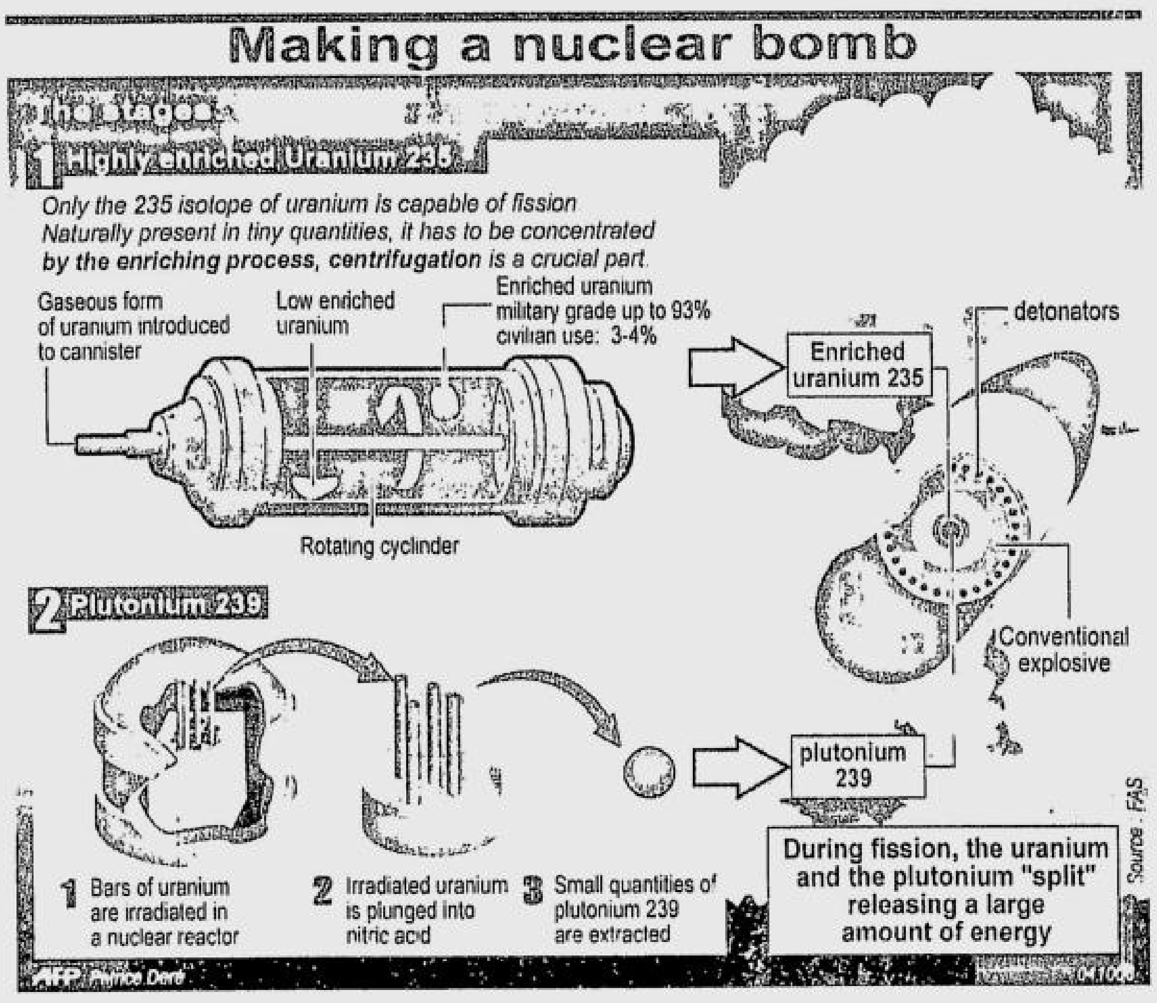
The North's official Korean Central News Agency said the "historic event ... greatly encouraged and pleased the (Korean People's Army) and people that have wished to have powerful self-reliant defense capability."

It was "a great leap forward in the building of a great prosperous powerful socialist nation," KCNA said.

South Korea's seismic monitoring center said a magnitude 3.6 tremor felt at the time of the alleged nuclear test wasn't a natural occurrence.

Defying the world

The size of the tremor could indicate an explosive equivalent to 550 tons of TNT, according to the Korea Institute of Geoscience and Mineral Resources.



Making a nuclear bomb

The stages
1 Highly enriched Uranium 235
Only the 235 isotope of uranium is capable of fission
Naturally present in tiny quantities, it has to be concentrated by the enriching process, centrifugation is a crucial part
Gaseous form of uranium introduced to cannister
Low enriched uranium
Enriched uranium military grade up to 93% civilian use: 3-4%
Rotating cyclinder
Enriched uranium 235
detonators
Conventional explosive
2 Plutonium 239
plutonium 239
1 Bars of uranium are irradiated in a nuclear reactor
2 Irradiated uranium is plunged into nitric acid
3 Small quantities of plutonium 239 are extracted
During fission, the uranium and the plutonium "split" releasing a large amount of energy

Source: FAS

AFP Patrice Dent 041006

This would be far smaller than the nuclear bombs the United States dropped on Japan in World War II.

The atomic bomb that struck Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945, had the destructive power of about 15,000 tons (33 million pounds) of TNT.

UN action urged

The US Geological Survey said it recorded a seismic event with a preliminary magnitude of 4.2 in northeastern North Korea coinciding with the test claim, but survey official Bruce Presgrave said the agency was unable to tell if it was an atomic explosion or a natural earthquake.

The White House said a test defied world opinion against it.

"A North Korean nuclear test would constitute a provocative act in defiance of the will of the international community and of our call to refrain from actions that would aggravate tensions in Northeast Asia," White House spokesperson Tony Snow said.

"We expect the UN Security Council to take immediate actions to respond to this unprovoked act," Snow said.

A Security Council resolution adopted in July after a series of North Korean missile launches imposed limited sanctions on Pyongyang and demanded the country rejoin international nuclear talks. The North rejected the plea.

Australia and South Korea said there was seismic confirmation that pointed to a nuclear test, and a top Russian military officer confirmed the device tested was a nuclear weapon, the Itar-Tass news agency reported.

'Harsh measure'

Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair said the test was a "completely irresponsible act," and its foreign ministry warned of international repercussions.

Russia, Germany, other governments, and the UN atomic agency also expressed grave concern.

"Enormous damage has been done to the process of nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction in the world," Russian President Vladimir Putin said.

Japan's Abe, in Seoul for a summit meeting, said Japan would consider "harsh measures."

South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun said the test would make it difficult for Seoul to maintain its engagement policy with its communist neighbor.

The two Koreas are divided by the world's most heavily armed border.

The North is believed to have enough radioactive material for about a half-dozen bombs. It insists its nuclear program is necessary to deter a US invasion.

Quiet in Pyongyang

The North also has active missile programs, but it isn't believed to have an atomic bomb design small and light enough to be mounted on a long-range rocket that could strike targets as far as the United States.

In Pyongyang, North Koreans went about their lives as usual on Monday with no signs of heightened alert by security forces.

The country's state TV read the official report about the test during a regular newscast. The item wasn't the top story, and there were no images shown of the test.

GMA's call

In Malacañang, Ms Arroyo called on "the regional and global stakeholders to exert all efforts ... to bring a peaceful resolution to this issue of utmost concern for the international community."

Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo joined international calls for Pyongyang to desist from conducting further tests. *Reports from AP, AFP, Christine O. Avendaño and Volt Contreras in Manila*

Nuclear powers

FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF the estimated capabilities of declared and undeclared nuclear powers:

United States: Maintains a sizeable arsenal of nuclear weapons of around 10,000 intact warheads, nearly 6,000 of which are considered active or operational.

- Approximately 1,700 are deployed on land-based missile systems, 1,098 on bombers (B-52 and B-2), and 3,168 on submarines.
- 800 are tactical nuclear weapons and consist of Tomahawk land attack Cruise missiles and B61 bombs.

Russia: Estimated to have 20,000 nuclear weapons. Under the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, the Russian nuclear arsenal has been reduced to approximately 7,000 strategic warheads.

France: Maintains about 350 nuclear warheads.

Britain: Stockpile is thought to be less than 200 strategic and "substrategic" warheads on nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines.

China: Maintains an arsenal of about 400 warheads, some 250 "strategic" weapons and some 150 "tactical" weapons.

India: Stock of weapons-grade plutonium is estimated to be 240-395 kg, which could be used to manufacture 40-90 simple fission weapons.

Pakistan: Building a new nuclear reactor that could produce enough plutonium for 40 to 50 nuclear weapons a year, reports said.

Israel: Has 100-200 nuclear explosive devices.

North Korea: May have enough fissile material for at least eight nuclear weapons. *Reuters*

Nuke arms race looms over Asia

From page A1

and Tokyo would put some of the world's biggest cities in the shadow of atomic weapons. It might also prompt previously reluctant powers like South Korea or Taiwan to seek nuclear arms.

On a wider scale, North Korea's dabbling with atomic weapons could spur other nuclear powers, including the United States, India or China, to resume their own nuclear testing, raising the risk of proliferation, analysts say.

Nuclear missiles

US Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld warned on Thursday that allowing North Korea to test a bomb would generate far-reaching fallout.

"The lack of cohesion and the inability to marshal sufficient leverage to prevent North Korea from proceeding toward a nuclear program ... will kind of lower the threshold, and other countries will step forward with it," Rumsfeld said.

A top concern is the possibility of North Korea mounting bombs atop missiles aimed at Seoul, Tokyo or even parts of the United States.

Memories of Hiroshima

While the North's ability to accurately deliver a warhead this way is in doubt, the communist nation shocked the world in 1998 by firing a long-range ballistic missile over Japan into the Pacific Ocean.

In July, it test-launched seven missiles.

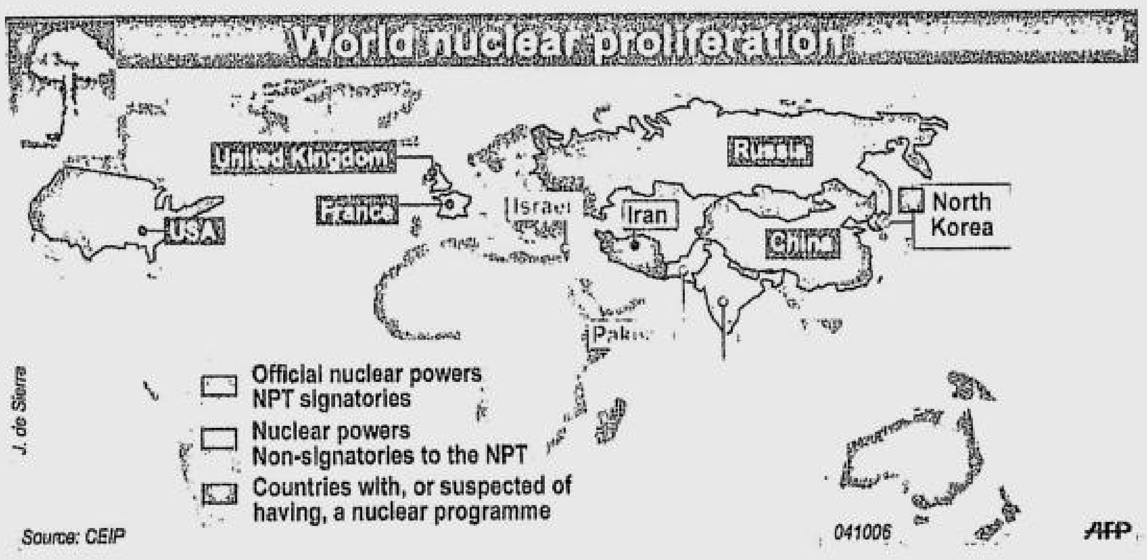
Abhorrence of nuclear weapons runs deep in Japan, where memories of the US atomic attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki are burned into the collective consciousness.

But just last month, a think tank run by former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone proposed that Japan "consider the nuclear option."

Tokyo weighed the nuclear possibility in 1995 to counter the threat of a nuclear-armed North Korea. But it ultimately rejected the idea because it might deprive Japan of US military protection and alarm neighboring countries.

Japan's options

Japan's post-World War II pacifist Constitution keeps its overseas strike ability in check; it has no aircraft carriers, bombers or long-range missiles.



World nuclear proliferation

United Kingdom
Russia
France
Israel
Iran
USA
China
North Korea
Pak
Official nuclear powers NPT signatories
Nuclear powers Non-signatories to the NPT
Countries with, or suspected of having, a nuclear programme

J. de Sierra

Source: CEIP

041006 AFP

But Prime Minister Shinzo Abe wants to amend the Constitution to give Japan's military greater leeway in international action.

If Japan decides to go nuclear, it wouldn't take long to convert the nation's huge stockpile of plutonium from the spent fuel of its nuclear power plants.

That would undoubtedly rattle China and South Korea, which have viewed Tokyo with suspicion since their neighbor invaded and colonized them in the early 20th century.

Both South Korea and Japan have largely relied on the US nuclear umbrella as insurance against an attack. But when faced with the verified presence of atomic bombs on the other side of the border, South Korea may consider arming itself.

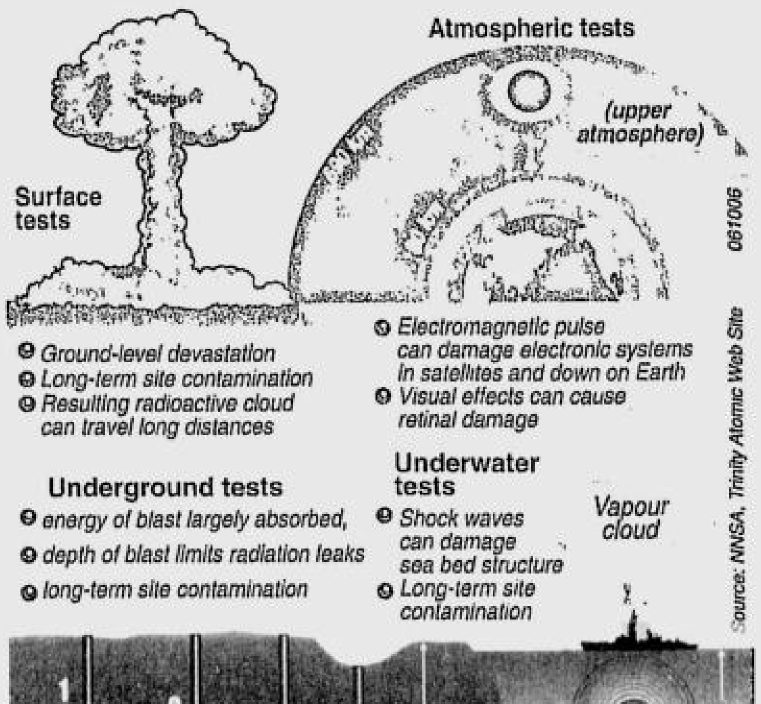
Southeast Asian dominos

Other countries might also use North Korea's test as an excuse to build atomic arsenals, says Ralph Cossa, president of the Honolulu-based Pacific Forum.

"If North Korea is 'justified' because it faces a threat from a bully superpower, Taiwan can make the same argument," Cossa said.

"Let's not overlook Southeast Asia, either. Burma is talking about obtaining a research reactor and both Indonesia and Vietnam are exploring nuclear energy options, although these dominos are a long way from falling," he added. *AP*

The different kinds of nuclear tests



Atmospheric tests
(upper atmosphere)
Surface tests
Ground-level devastation
Long-term site contamination
Resulting radioactive cloud can travel long distances
Electromagnetic pulse can damage electronic systems in satellites and down on Earth
Visual effects can cause retinal damage
Underground tests
energy of blast largely absorbed,
depth of blast limits radiation leaks
long-term site contamination
Underwater tests
Shock waves can damage sea bed structure
Long-term site contamination
Vapour cloud
1 Blast
2 Rock liquifies
3 Cools
4 Collapse creates surface crater
150 m

061006

Source: NNSA, Trinity Atomic Web Site

Laurence Saubadu AFP

IN THE KNOW

History of nuclear weapons

NORTH KOREA'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IT has exploded a nuclear device marks the first real life test of the world's deadliest weapon to take place anywhere in the world since 1998. Key events in the history of nuclear weapons:

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1946-63: The United States, rapidly joined by the Soviet Union, Britain and France, carries out weapons tests, many of them above ground.

The extreme danger to life posed by nuclear fallout only gradually becomes widely known.

1963: The main powers sign a Limited Test Ban Treaty, banning explosions in the atmosphere, in space or under water. Most subsequent tests take place deep underground. China begins testing in 1964.

1968: The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, signed over the years by 188 countries, aims both to persuade nuclear powers to get rid of their weapons and to prevent other countries obtaining them.

Israel, which is widely reported to have such arms, refuses to sign, as do India and Pakistan, which have made no secret of possessing them.

1972-93: The United States and the Soviet Union—Russia after 1991—sign treaties aimed at cutting their huge nuclear arsenals and reducing the number of tests.

1996: Drafting of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, intended to prevent all test nuclear blasts of any kind. It has still not been ratified by the United States and China.

1998: India and longtime foe Pakistan carry out underground tests.

In all, just over 2,048 nuclear weapons tests are officially reported to have taken place throughout the world since the first blasts in 1945. Of that total, 1,032 were carried out by the United States, and 715 by the Soviet Union. *AFP*

Kim Jong-il deepens Pyongyang's isolation

SEOUL—NORTH KOREA'S reported nuclear test is not the first time Kim Jong Il has provoked the world and dismayed even his closest allies.

Since inheriting power in 1994, Kim has solidified his international reputation as an unpredictable leader whose intransigence has deepened North Korea's isolation.

Abroad, many consider the pudgy, bouffant-haired Kim a ruthless dictator who seeks atomic weapons while starving his people.

But at home, the state-run media hails the "Dear Leader" as a prodigious general, an ace film director and the "Lodestar of the 21st Century."

Kim's latest nuclear standoff with the world stretches back to 2002 when Washington accused North Korea of developing a secret nuclear weapons program in violation of an earlier agreement. That year, US President George W. Bush branded the communist country part of an "axis of evil," along with Iraq and Iran.

Kim's fears

Kim, 64, has since taken North Korea on an increasingly confrontational path, withdrawing from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, and culminating in Monday's claim of nuclear weapons test.

Nuclear weapons give North Korea an unparalleled deterrent from attack, something Kim has increasingly feared after watching the United States invade Iraq and topple Saddam Hussein.

The West's demonic image of Kim, however, goes back years before he took power. It is based in part on suspicions that he masterminded a 1983 terrorist bombing in Myanmar that killed 17 South Korean officials and the 1987 bombing of a South Korean airliner that killed all 115 people aboard.

Military first

Kim has ruled his impoverished country with a "military first" policy since the 1994 death of his father and North Korea's founder, Kim Il Sung.

He controls the world's fifth largest military, the 1.1 million-strong People's Army.

If confirmed, North Korea's nuclear test would add atomic strike power its formidable but aging arsenal of chemical, biological and conventional weapons.

Biographical insight on Kim is extremely sketchy. He rarely appears in public and his voice is seldom broadcast. But defectors from North Korea describe him as an eloquent and tireless orator, primarily to military units that form the base of his support. *AP*

N. Korea nuclear blast stuns world

From page A1

With a population of 23 million, North Korea is an impoverished, isolated country heavily dependent on foreign aid, especially from China, to feed its people.

More than a half-century after the end of the 1950-53 Korean War, the North remains an enduring source of tension and unpredictability for the region. During the Korean War, Gen. Douglas MacArthur wanted to use nuclear bombs against it.

'Great leap forward'

Since the mid-1990s, it has been suffering from power and food shortages. Natural disasters and mismanagement have devastated its economy and led to a famine believed to have killed some 2 million people.

Regional markets were rattled by the reported test. The news sparked plunges in South Korea's stocks and its currency, the won. Share prices also fell in Hong Kong, Sydney, Singapore and elsewhere.

The North's official Korean Central News Agency said the "historic event … greatly encouraged and pleased the (Korean People's Army) and people that have wished to have powerful self-reliant defense capability."

It was "a great leap forward in the building of a great prosperous powerful socialist nation," KCNA said.

South Korea's seismic monitoring center said a magnitude 3.6 tremor felt at the time of the alleged nuclear test wasn't a natural occurrence.

Defying the world

The size of the tremor could indicate an explosive equivalent to 550 tons of TNT, according to the Korea Institute of Geoscience and Mineral Resources.

This would be far smaller than the nuclear bombs the United States dropped on Japan in World War II.

The atomic bomb that struck Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945, had the destructive power of about 15,000 tons (33 million pounds) of TNT.

UN action urged

The US Geological Survey said it recorded a seismic event with a preliminary magnitude of 4.2 in northeastern North Korea coinciding with the test claim, but survey official Bruce Presgrave said the agency was unable to tell if it was an atomic explosion or a natural earthquake.

The White House said a test defied world opinion against it.

"A North Korean nuclear test would constitute a provocative act in defiance of the will of the international community and of our call to refrain from actions that would aggravate tensions in Northeast Asia," White House spokesperson Tony Snow said.

"We expect the UN Security Council to take immediate actions to respond to this unprovoked act," Snow said.

A Security Council resolution adopted in July after a series of North Korean missile launches imposed limited sanctions on Pyongyang and demanded the country rejoin international nuclear talks. The North rejected the plea.

Australia and South Korea said there was seismic confirmation that pointed to a nuclear test, and a top Russian military officer confirmed the device tested was a nuclear weapon, the Itar-Tass news agency reported.

'Harsh measure'

Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair said the test was a "completely irresponsible act," and its foreign ministry warned of international repercussions.

Russia, Germany, other governments, and the UN atomic agency also expressed grave concern.

"Enormous damage has been done to the process of nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction in the world," Russian President Vladimir Putin said.

Japan's Abe, in Seoul for a summit meeting, said Japan would consider "harsh measures."

South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun said the test would make it difficult for Seoul to maintain its engagement policy with its communist neighbor.

The two Koreas are divided by the world's most heavily armed border.

The North is believed to have enough radioactive material for about a half-dozen bombs. It insists its nuclear program is necessary to deter a US invasion.

Quiet in Pyongyang

The North also has active missile programs, but it isn't believed to have an atomic bomb design small and light enough to be mounted on a long-range rocket that could strike targets as far as the United States.

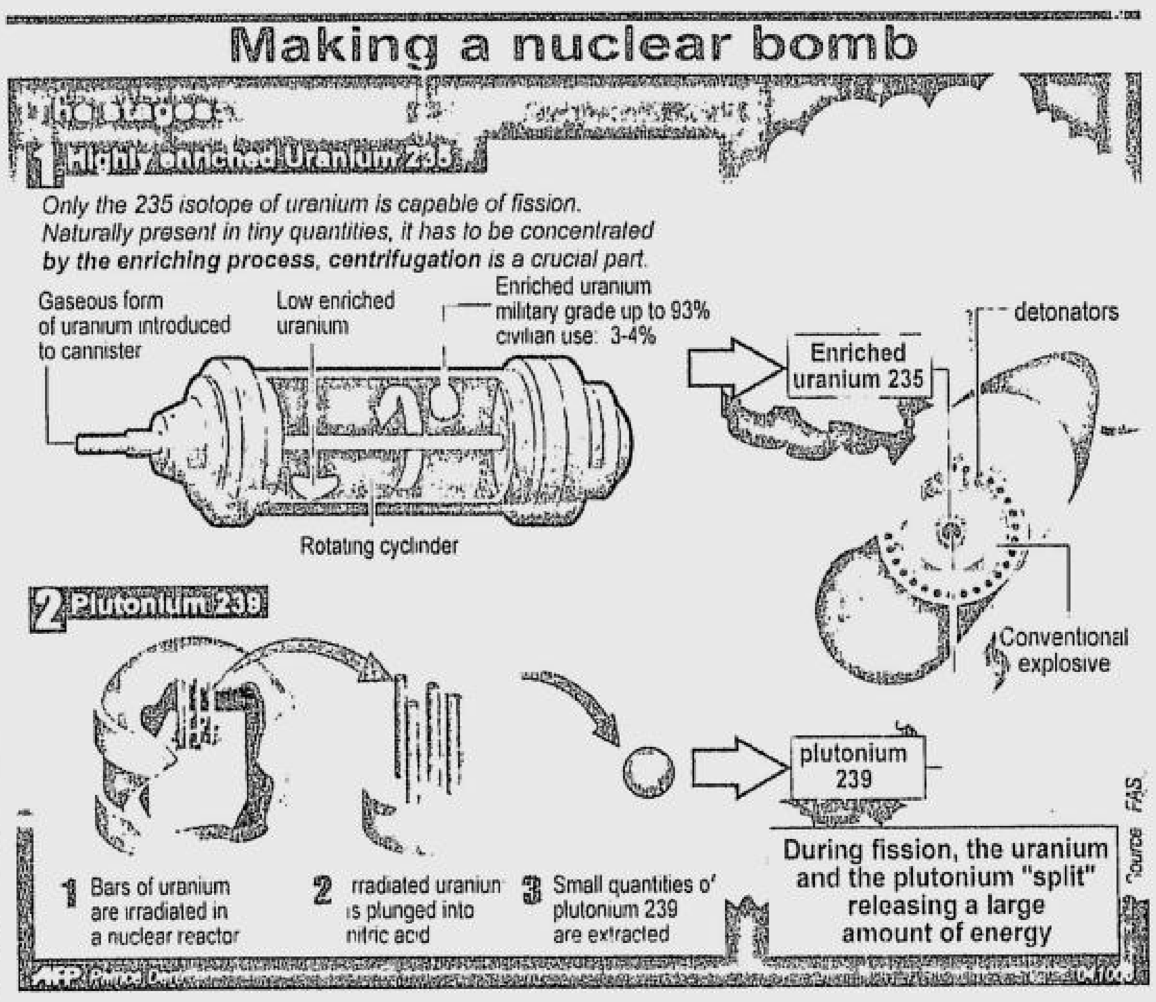
In Pyongyang, North Koreans went about their lives as usual on Monday with no signs of heightened alert by security forces.

The country's state TV read the official report about the test during a regular newscast. The item wasn't the top story, and there were no images shown of the test.

GMA's call

In Malacañang, Ms Arroyo called on "the regional and global stakeholders to exert all efforts … to bring a peaceful resolution to this issue of utmost concern for the international community."

Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo joined international calls for Pyongyang to desist from conducting further tests. *Reports from AP, AFP, Christine O. Avendaño and Volt Contreras in Manila*



Making a nuclear bomb

The stages
1 Highly enriched Uranium 235
Only the 235 isotope of uranium is capable of fission. Naturally present in tiny quantities, it has to be concentrated by the enriching process, centrifugation is a crucial part.
Gaseous form of uranium introduced to cannister
Low enriched uranium
Enriched uranium military grade up to 93% civilian use: 3-4%
Rotating cyclinder
Enriched uranium 235
detonators
Conventional explosive
2 Plutonium 239
1 Bars of uranium are irradiated in a nuclear reactor
2 Irradiated uranium is plunged into nitric acid
3 Small quantities of plutonium 239 are extracted
plutonium 239
During fission, the uranium and the plutonium "split" releasing a large amount of energy

Source: FAS

AFP

Nuclear powers

FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF the estimated capabilities of declared and undeclared nuclear powers:

United States: Maintains a sizeable arsenal of nuclear weapons of around 10,000 intact warheads, nearly 6,000 of which are considered active or operational.

- Approximately 1,700 are deployed on land-based missile systems, 1,098 on bombers (B-52 and B-2), and 3,168 on submarines.
- 800 are tactical nuclear weapons and consist of Tomahawk land attack Cruise missiles and B61 bombs.

Russia: Estimated to have 20,000 nuclear weapons. Under the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, the Russian nuclear arsenal has been reduced to approximately 7,000 strategic warheads.

France: Maintains about 350 nuclear warheads.

Britain: Stockpile is thought to be less than 200 strategic and "substrategic" warheads on nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines.

China: Maintains an arsenal of about 400 warheads, some 250 "strategic" weapons and some 150 "tactical" weapons.

India: Stock of weapons-grade plutonium is estimated to be 240-395 kg, which could be used to manufacture 40-90 simple fission weapons.

Pakistan: Building a new nuclear reactor that could produce enough plutonium for 40 to 50 nuclear weapons a year, reports said.

Israel: Has 100-200 nuclear explosive devices.

North Korea: May have enough fissile material for at least eight nuclear weapons. *Reuters*

Nuke arms race looms over Asia

From page A1

and Tokyo would put some of the world's biggest cities in the shadow of atomic weapons. It might also prompt previously reluctant powers like South Korea or Taiwan to seek nuclear arms.

On a wider scale, North Korea's dabbling with atomic weapons could spur other nuclear powers, including the United States, India or China, to resume their own nuclear testing, raising the risk of proliferation, analysts say.

Nuclear missiles

US Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld warned on Thursday that allowing North Korea to test a bomb would generate far-reaching fallout.

"The lack of cohesion and the inability to marshal sufficient leverage to prevent North Korea from proceeding toward a nuclear program … will kind of lower the threshold, and other countries will step forward with it," Rumsfeld said.

A top concern is the possibility of North Korea mounting bombs atop missiles aimed at Seoul, Tokyo or even parts of the United States.

Memories of Hiroshima

While the North's ability to accurately deliver a warhead this way is in doubt, the communist nation shocked the world in 1998 by firing a long-range ballistic missile over Japan into the Pacific Ocean.

In July, it test-launched seven missiles.

Abhorrence of nuclear weapons runs deep in Japan, where memories of the US atomic attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki are burned into the collective consciousness.

But just last month, a think tank run by former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone proposed that Japan "consider the nuclear option."

Tokyo weighed the nuclear possibility in 1995 to counter the threat of a nuclear-armed North Korea. But it ultimately rejected the idea because it might deprive Japan of US military protection and alarm neighboring countries.

Japan's options

Japan's post-World War II pacifist Constitution keeps its overseas strike ability in check; it has no aircraft carriers, bombers or long-range missiles.

But Prime Minister Shinzo Abe wants to amend the Constitution to give Japan's military greater leeway in international action.

If Japan decides to go nuclear, it wouldn't take long to convert the nation's huge stockpile of plutonium from the spent fuel of its nuclear power plants.

That would undoubtedly rattle China and South Korea, which have viewed Tokyo with suspicion since their neighbor invaded and colonized them in the early 20th century.

Both South Korea and Japan have largely relied on the US nuclear umbrella as insurance against an attack. But when faced with the verified presence of atomic bombs on the other side of the border, South Korea may consider arming itself.

Southeast Asian dominos

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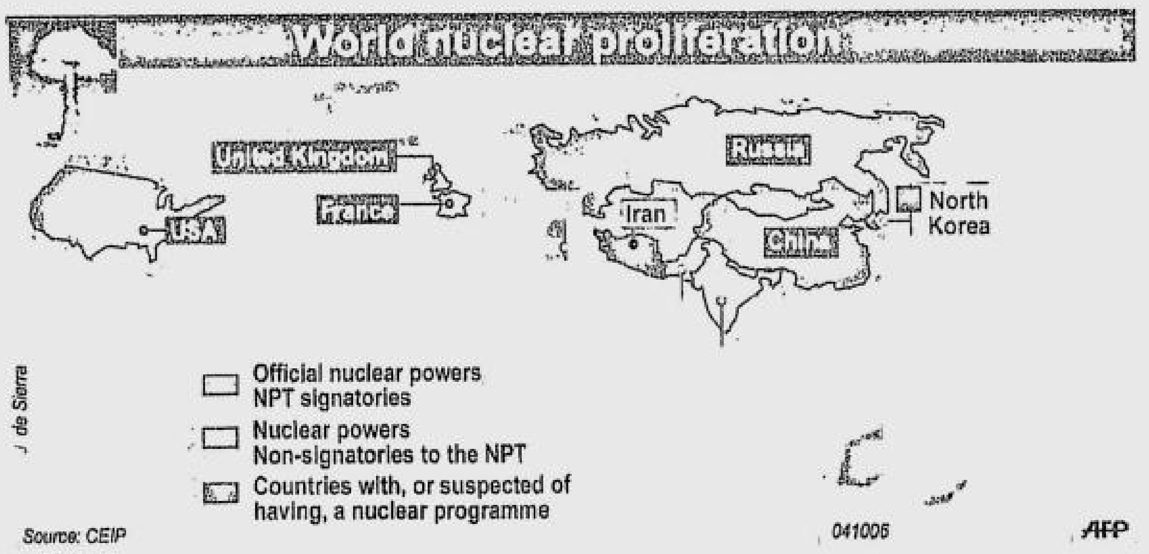

World nuclear proliferation
United Kingdom
Russia
USA
France
Iran
China
North Korea
Official nuclear powers NPT signatories
Nuclear powers Non-signatories to the NPT
Countries with, or suspected of having, a nuclear programme
J de Sierra
041006

Source: CEIP

AFP

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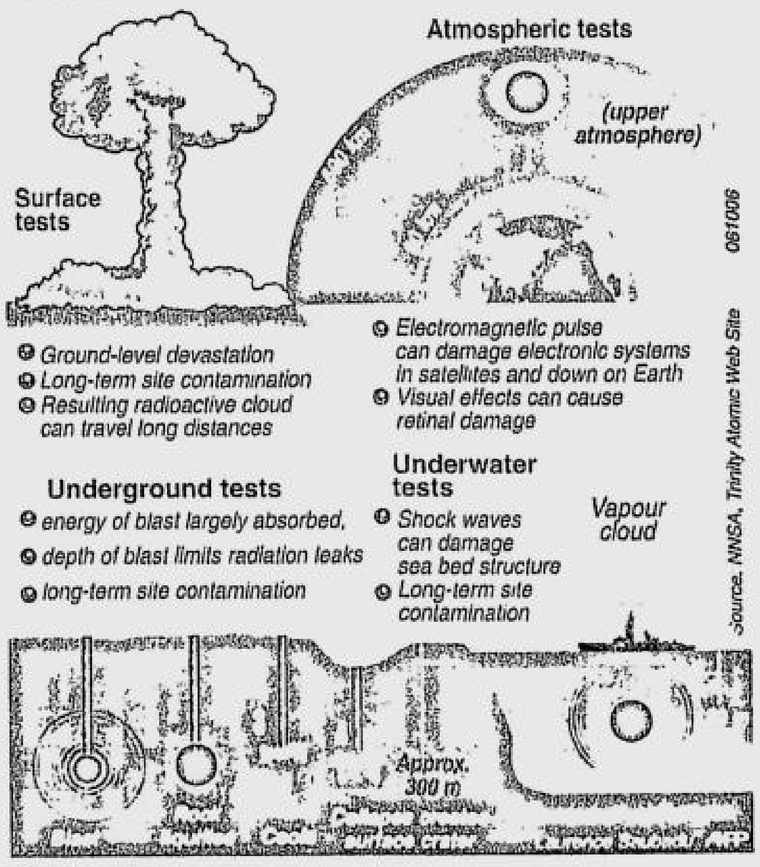
The different kinds of nuclear tests



Atmospheric tests
(upper atmosphere)
Surface tests
Ground-level devastation
Long-term site contamination
Resulting radioactive cloud can travel long distances
Electromagnetic pulse can damage electronic systems in satellites and down on Earth
Visual effects can cause retinal damage
Underground tests
energy of blast largely absorbed,
depth of blast limits radiation leaks
long-term site contamination
Underwater tests
Shock waves can damage sea bed structure
Long-term site contamination
Vapour cloud
Approx. 300 m
061006

Source: NNSA, Trinity Atomic Web Site

AFP

Congress 'outsources' building of classrooms

By Philip C. Tubeza

CONGRESS HAS "OUTSOURCED" THE CONSTRUCTION of P250 million worth of classrooms to highly cost-effective non-governmental organizations (NGOs), according to a ranking lawmaker.

House Deputy Majority Leader Eduardo Gullas said yesterday the NGOs, led by the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry Inc. (FFCCCII), would build a total of 1,100 classrooms, each with a floor area of 49 square meters, at a cost not exceeding P225,000 per unit.

"We are definitely encouraging the participation of NGOs, particularly those with the capability and proven track record, in the construction of public school buildings," said Gullas, who represents Cebu province's first district.

He said the P250 million was part of the P46.4 billion supplemental national budget for this year that Congress recently approved.

He explained that of the P46.4 billion, Congress authorized an additional P1 billion in spending "for the construction repair, rehabilitation and completion of school buildings."

Of the P1 billion, P500 million would be "for the rehabilitation, repair and retrofitting of school buildings." The remaining P500 million would be "for the construction and completion of school buildings," Gullas said.

Out of the second P500 million, P250 million would be "made available" to the FFCCCII and other NGOs, he added.

Gullas said that "for years" the FFCCCII, through its Operation Barrio School Program, had been building classrooms nationwide using donated funds.

"This time, however, they will be putting up the classrooms using public funds," the Cebu lawmaker said.

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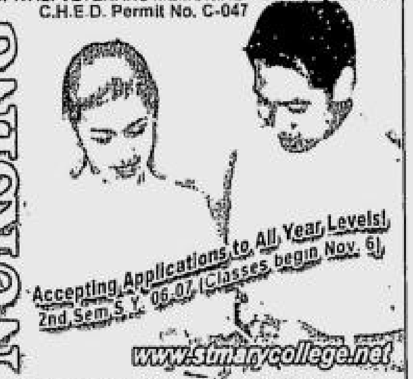

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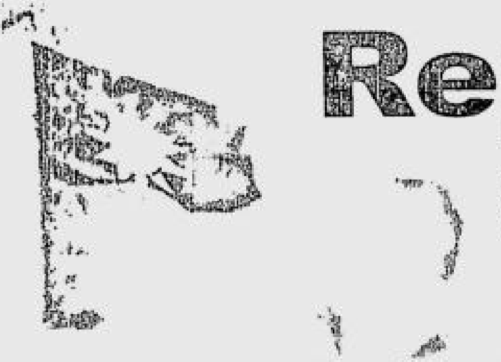
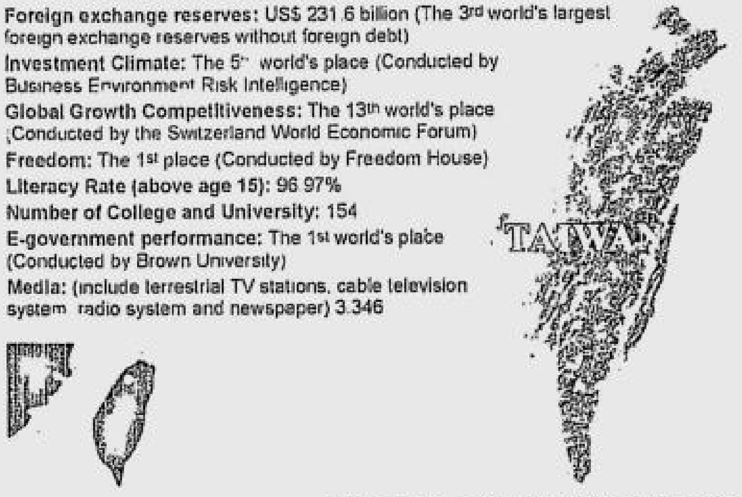


Republic of China (Taiwan)

Marks [illegible]th National Day Anniversary

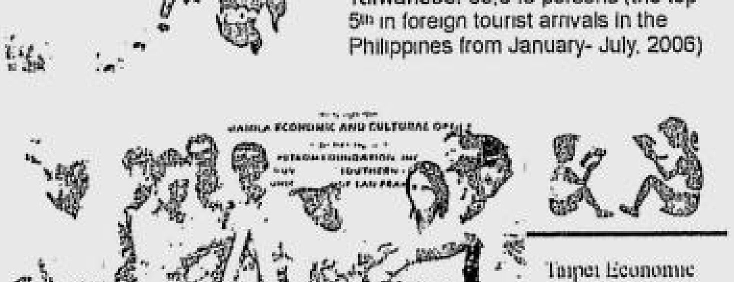
A Glance at Taiwan

Area: 36,000sq. km
Population: 22.68 million **Capital:** Taipei City
Life Expectancy: 76.4 years
Language: Mandarin/Holo Taiwanese/Hakka
Per capita GNP: US$15,291
Total Trade Volume: US$278 billion (the 16th world's largest trading nation)
Foreign exchange reserves: US$ 231.6 billion (The 3rd world's largest foreign exchange reserves without foreign debt)
Investment Climate: The 5th world's place (Conducted by Business Environment Risk Intelligence)
Global Growth Competitiveness: The 13th world's place (Conducted by the Switzerland World Economic Forum)
Freedom: The 1st place (Conducted by Freedom House)
Literacy Rate (above age 15): 96.97%
Number of College and University: 154
E-government performance: The 1st world's place (Conducted by Brown University)
Media: (include terrestrial TV stations, cable television system, radio system and newspaper) 3,346



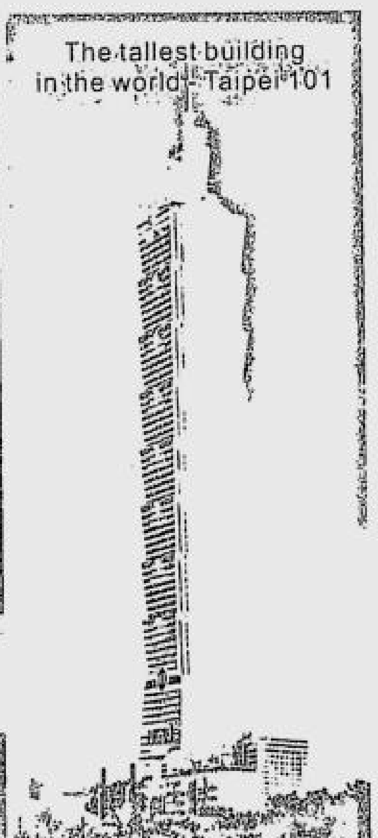
Taiwan-Philippines Relations

Taiwan is the 7th largest foreign investment in the Philippines: Total investment Amount US$ 1.3 billion
Philippine exports to Taiwan: US$ 2.8 billion
Philippines imports from Taiwan: US$ 4.2 billion
OFWs in Taiwan: 94,516 persons
Trips to the Philippines by Taiwanese: 68,548 persons (the top 5th in foreign tourist arrivals in the Philippines from January- July, 2006)


MANILA ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE
PETRON FOUNDATION, INC
SOUTHERN

Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) donated $100,000 to house 12 classrooms in two school buildings in Southern Leyte. Leyte Gov. Rosette Lerias and Dr. Hsin-Hsing Wu, Taiwan's representative in the Philippines (3rd from right) lead the groundbreaking ceremony for the school building project.

Scenic spot - Yehliou



The tallest building in the world - Taipei 101

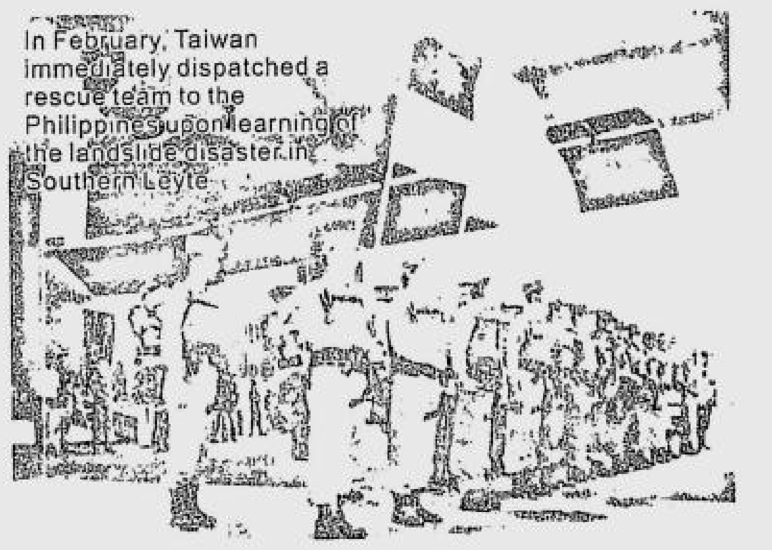
Taiwan - An Ideal Travel Destination

Taiwan's total land area is only about 36,000 square kilometers; it is shaped like a tobacco leaf that is narrow at both ends. It lies off the southeastern coast of mainland Asia, across the Taiwan Straits from Mainland China-- a solitary island on the western edge of the Pacific Ocean. To the north lies Japan and Okinawa, to the south is the Philippines. Many airlines fly to Taiwan, helping make it the perfect travel destination.

Taiwan lies on the western edge of the Pacific "rim of fire," and continuous tectonic movements have created majestic peaks, rolling hills and plains, basins, coastlines, and other wonders. Taiwan sees climates of many types: tropical, subtropical, and temperate, providing clear differentiation between the different seasons. There are about 18,400 species of wildlife on the island, with more than 20% belonging to rare or endangered species, among these are the land-locked salmon, Taiwan mountain goat, Formosan rock monkey, Formosan black bear, blue magpie, Mikado pheasant, Hsuehshan grass lizard, and many more.

The government has established 6 national parks and 13 national scenic areas to preserve Taiwan's best natural ecological environment and cultural sites. Take in the splendor and sheer heights of the cliffs at Taroko Gorge, take a ride on the Alishan train--one of only three mountain railways in the world--and experience the breathtaking sunset and sea of clouds; hike up to the summit of Northeast Asia's highest peak, Jade Mountain. You can also soak up the sun in Kending, Asia's version of Hawaii; stand at the edge of Sun Moon Lake; traipse through the East Rift Valley, or visit the offshore islands of Kinmen and Penghu. It's fun in capital letters as well as an awesome journey of natural discovery!

The cultural aspects also not to be missed. The blending of Hakka, Taiwanese, and mainland Chinese cultures has produced a rich plethora of cultural and social color. Whether it is religion, architecture, language, living habits, or food, it's just one big exciting melting pot! Food is the best representative of this cultural mixing and matching. Aside from cuisines from different parts of the mainland such as Zhejiang, Hunan, Guangdong, Yunnan, Shanghai, Beijing, Sichuan, and others, there is also the local Taiwanese cuisine as well as the local delicacies of each area.



In February, Taiwan immediately dispatched a rescue team to the Philippines upon learning of the landslide disaster in Southern Leyte

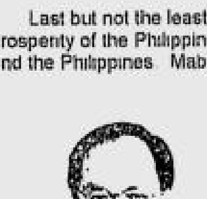
Message

The Republic of China (Taiwan) celebrates today its 95th National Day. On this auspicious occasion, the 23 million Taiwanese with their compatriots overseas who treasure freedom and democracy commemorate the founding of the Republic by Dr. Sun Yat-Sen and his fellow comrades.

In the past year, Taiwan has encountered severe challenges but with our perseverance and wisdom we have triumphed over them and continue to develop in every respect. In September 2006, Taiwan ranks 13th in Global Competitiveness by the World Economic Forum, and its foreign exchange reserves of US$261 billion remain third highest in the world as of August this year. Recently, the Snow Mountain Freeway Channel considered as Asia's longest and the world's fifth was completed while the high speed railway will be operational by the end of this month. These huge communication constructions will significantly contribute towards Taiwan's more vibrant economic activities in the days to come.

Taiwan attaches great importance on its responsibilities as a member of the international community and we are always ready to share the fruits of our hard work. Taiwan and the Philippines are the closest of neighbors. Taiwan immediately dispatched a rescue team to the Philippines upon learning of the landslide in Southern Leyte. Only recently, the Chia Yi Christian Hospital and the Taiwan Root Medical peace Corps rendered free medical treatment to poor people in some remote areas. It will always be our constant endeavor to further strengthen the friendly relations and cooperation existing between our two countries and peoples.

Last but not the least, my best wishes for the continued success and prosperity of the Philippines and to the ever-lasting friendship between Taiwan and the Philippines. Mabuhay!



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Winning Olympic gold still an elusive dream

From page A1

"We got some negative reactions," says Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) Chair William "Butch" Ramirez, referring to his meeting with some officials of national sports associations (NSAs). "Some of them felt that doing that would leave some of them out."

"Focus" at this time is still on the coming 15th Asian Games in Doha, where the Philippines will again get a sampling of what world-class action has become in this day and age.

There, China, Japan, the two Koreas, and some former Soviet republics, such as Kazakhstan and Uzbekhistan, will see action.

Ramirez is upbeat the Philippines will surpass the three golds it had earned in the last Asian Games in Busan, South Korea. He says he will know what the focus sports for the Beijing Olympics will be and so also for the 2012 London Games.

Gold in combat sports?

Ramirez, who took over the PSC from two-time Olympian Eric Buhain, believes that combat sports, like boxing, taekwondo and even wushu, will most likely give the Philippines its first Olympic gold medal.

Combat sports, where weight classes are enforced and where the Filipino's physique will not be drowned or overmatched in terms of size, remains the key.

While Cuba trains its boxers year-round and Korea has been polishing the skills of its jins for the longest time in its national sport, Filipino pugs are being trained by discards of Cuba's boxing association.

The Philippines has been talking of success in the Olympic boxing ring as early as 1932, when Jose "Cely" Villanueva won the country's first boxing medal—a bronze—in Los Angeles.

That's why it has become even harder to fathom why the country, which competed that early, has never had that solid shot at winning.

Taekwondo

Mansueto "Onyok" Velasco and Leopoldo Serrantes were isolated incidents, freaks of the RP campaign that was never sustained.

A Korean master is handling the Philippine taekwondo program, which netted bronze medals courtesy of Stephen Fernandez and Bea Lucero, a gymnast who leaped to this arena, in the 1992 Barcelona Games. But the medals were won in an Olympic year when the event was still held as a demonstration sport.

Wushu, even if it is made a regular sport in Beijing, will surely be dominated by the Chinese who practically invented it. Plus, Chinese athletes will be playing on home soil and will have all the access they need to the judges.

Band-Aid solution

Recruiting Filipino-American talents has been the Band-Aid solution of many NSAs.

Cecil Mamiit is no different from those who had been recruited in the past. Though the 5-foot-8 dynamo gave Philippine tennis pride and joy in last December's SEA Games, going for a medal against the likes of Roger Federer or Andy Roddick in Beijing seems a pipe dream.

Paradorn Srichapan of Thailand is still in the way, and the former World No. 10, the highest ranking achieved by an Asian on the ATP Tour, wasn't even in Manila for the SEA Games.

Participating in the Olympics requires a country to field athletes in swimming and athletics, sports in which Ramirez thinks the Philippines has very little chances.

Not that Buhain went to the Olympics in 1988 and 1992 to give token participation, he was the best-prepared Philippine swimmer at the time, training at La Salle in Philadephia for years before going to the Games.

Despite being the best in Southeast Asia and the advanced training he got in the United States. Buhain did not have much luck.

"Yes, I think we have a chance in Beijing," Buhain, winner of six gold medals in the 1991 SEA Games in Manila, says.

"But if we are to entertain that thought, our athletes should be training for (the Olympics) as early as now. There are a good two years left … and not settling into a training program until the next three months would mean that we have passed up that chance," he warns.

Enlisting Fil-Ams' help

Go Teng Kok, the outspoken president of the Philippine Amateur Track and Field Association, and Jose "Peping" Cojuangco, the president of the Philippine Olympic Committee, think that the timing is just right.

Cojuangco has touched base with several Filipino-American families, whom he got to agree to house, feed and fund some of the country's potentially bright track stars in the United States to prepare them for international competitions.

"We're way behind in technology," Cojuangco says. "If we get our athletes to get that technology (through training under a coach abroad), then we have a great chance."

Bemedalled high jumpers Maristela Torres and Henry Dagmil are set to fly to the United States to train under seasoned Cal State coach Chris Huffin. According to Go, both athletes are going to America because their personal bests are just a shade under the Asian standard.

"I am confident that if they (Torres and Dagmil) get to train in the United States, we have a chance of winning medals in Doha," Go says.

But while football countries, like Angola, Brazil and Argentina, have been sending teams to events, like basketball and volleyball, our leaders are busy squabbling.

Basketball mess

The mess in the local basketball scene has set back the national program by several decades instead of advancing it a step.

A controversy is brewing in the football association, and it is threatening to erupt into a full-blown war. Intercession by the world-governing Fifa is not far-fetched. Should this happen, Philippine suspension from all Fifa-run events will likely follow.

With the circus called sports politics a never-ending story in the Philippines and funding a chronic problem, winning an Olympic gold remains only a dream at the moment.

'A conspiracy of cheaters'

From page A1

hair on their faces are shaven and their muscle development is clearly not that of an elementary student."

Remarkably, the ensuing fact-finding probe by the Department of Education, the Palaro's chief organizer, produced rare confessions—and a glimpse into why this national scholastic league seemed hardly a level playing field where potential Olympians ought to be born and reared.

A barangay councilman turned substitute teacher turned coach from Region 8 (Eastern Visayas) admitted fielding overaged players in the elementary baseball competition, saying he just wanted to "ensure victory, a winning trophy and honor" for his region and hopefully gain "a regular appointment" as a teacher.

Another teacher/coach, from Region 9 (Zamboanga Peninsula), also admitted inserting high school freshmen and sophomore boys into the region's elementary football squad "in his desire to be transferred from his present mountain assignment to the town proper."

The investigation report, which hit the press in late August, recommended sanctions against 11 school officials and 16 student-athletes from Regions 4-A (Southern Tagalog), 8 and 9 (out of the around 5,200 players who competed in this year's games held in Naga City).

Some would say this blacklist is too short, the blot too marginal, to mar Palaro's image and accomplishments as the country's premier grass-roots program for sports development.

The summer meet, with its roots traceable to the country's first interschool leagues held in the 1930s, is a major scouting ground for college varsity recruiters and national sports associations (NSAs) under the Philippine Olympic movement.

'Cheating deeply rooted'

"Cheating is not preponderant," maintained Feliciano "Len" Toledo, national coordinator of DepEd's Task Force on School Sports, noting the small number of questionable players out of the total number of participants.

But in remarks made days after the draft report made headlines, Education Secretary Jesli Lapus had to concede that "cheating (in the Palaro) is deeply rooted and is a continuing practice."

"Basic education aims to instill values. And these sad stories of cheating, dishonesty and unsportsmanship are exactly the opposite. They (officials involved) are bad examples as mentors and role models to their students," Lapus said, describing this year's scandals as a "precedent-setting matter."

But aside from the "teacher-turns-cheater" irony that Lapus pointed out, the highly idealistic thrust of the Palaro may prompt one to ask: What could possibly tempt otherwise law-abiding, highly esteemed educators to commit fraud and corrupt the young in a sports tournament that doesn't even award cash prizes to the medalists or their schools?

Why risk their reputations and careers—as well as the future of their bogus "star" athletes? Is there big money somewhere awaiting the champion? A chance for the winning player or coach to be discovered by scouts and instantly turn pro?

They just want 'honor'

As exemplified by the confessions made by the two coaches earlier cited, they just wanted "honor"—or some new glint on their resumé that might finally lead to a promotion. And there further lies the disturbing irony.

Rollie Brillantes, former director of the defunct Bureau of Physical Education and School Sports who is now detailed at the Philippine Sports Commission, said winning teacher-coaches get to earn "service merits" which they can later use as points for promotions.

"It's like the equivalent of attending seminars and earning certificates; added qualifications that help you go up in the rankings," Brillantes told the INQUIRER in an interview.

In another media report, Brillantes was earlier quoted as saying: "(Making it to the Palaro) is like a credit card for promotions. Some coaches are relying on it because they have no masteral units and they cannot take further studies, so that's their only hope."

Financial incentives

Requesting anonymity, a DepEd official deeply involved in the Palaro program said "officially, there's no monetary gain involved, but coaches would often have financial incentives if they could keep winning in the qualifying rounds."

Such incentives, the official said, often come from local governments that sponsor the homegrown team or all-star selection representing a province or region. The sponsorships "pour in," especially during the division or regional qualifiers, long before the league attracts national media coverage and scrutiny.

The motivation to win at all cost can be as basic as the coach's need "to justify the sponsorship of uniforms or equipment."

A nonteacher coach hired by a private school may also be tempted to deliver victories by all means to help ensure the renewal of his contract with the school, the official added.

The chance to travel—especially if overseas competitions are already in sight—is also a major draw. "If you are a teacher from a remote town, it's your chance to see places for free and be recognized as a local hero when you return," Brillantes said.

Community conspiracy

Brillantes said he was saddened by the recent Palaro scandals since, for sure, "not only the coaches and players knew about (the cheating) but also the other teachers and the rest of the school. It's a conspiracy and it's something tolerated by the entire community."

It's not even about scoring instant riches. "*Mababaw lang talaga* (It's very shallow)," observed sports journalists who have covered the Palaro for years.

In the infamous 1992 Little League scandal in which the Philippine team from Zamboanga City was stripped of the World Little League Series championship for fielding not only overage but also nonresident players, the "incentives" factor reared its ugly head.

"The lure of the P1-million donation from then President Fidel V. Ramos, the $3,000 that a wealthy Zamboangueño gave the players in the US and promises of scholarships and advertising contracts proved the undoing of the web of deceit that the Little League officials had foisted on the country and the world," said INQUIRER reporter Armand Nocum, in a piece he wrote a few months ago recalling how he built up his exposé.

Nocum said he was able to piece this web together through accounts coming from disgruntled parties "not satisfied with (their) share of the loot," among them parents of some Zamboanga players whose identities were "borrowed" by replacements coming from Luzon.

Same shenanigans

Fourteen years after the Little League fiasco, the same shenanigans have cropped up at the Palaro, prompting the DepEd to consider tighter measures in the screening of both athletes and coaches.

In the same fact-finding report, the probe panel headed by Undersecretary Franklin Sunga recommended that screening committees from the lower meets up to the Palaro nationals include "legal and medical officers" for more effective age and residence verification.

The athletes should also submit their medical and dental records and authenticated birth certificates, and have their names published on the Internet. Player eligibility forms should now include "physical attributes and impressions of doctors."

The report further noted that the Palaro's national screening committee merely had six days to examine the athletes' papers, "a grossly inadequate time" to cover over 5,000 participants.

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Town banks on 262 …

From page A1

of white, red and purple, of which 64 are planted in plots of its farmers. Average size of the plots is two hectares.

The seed bank, cared for by the Central Visayas State College of Agriculture, Forestry and Technology, is one of the most extensive in the Visayas. Bilar farmers readily get seeds from the bank to try out in their farms or to cross-breed with other varieties to produce their own.

It was in 1995 that Bilar was left with just three traditional rice varieties planted in a few plots. The majority of the rice fields were planted to just one type—IR66—that required plenty of fertilizer.

Farmer Cisenio Salces, 44, said he used to harvest 80 cavans from his one-hectare land using an old variety. Most of what he earned just went to purchasing commercial fertilizers. He also lost some rice stalks to disease.

Alternatives

Salces said the farmers were desperately looking for alternatives when they welcomed the entry of Southeast Asia Regional Initiatives for Community Empowerment (Searice) to Bilar in 1996.

Searice is a nongovernment, nonprofit organization working for the preservation of community plant genetic resources to promote agriculture practices that do not heavily depend on fertilizers and are safe on humans and the environment.

Searice chose Bilar as the site in the Philippines of the Southeast Asian project of the Community Biodiversity Conservation and Development because of the very low genetic diversity in the town when the project started in 1995.

Rice varieties that were used through generations were put by the wayside, and planting with introduced species that turned out to be prone to disease became the norm in the town.

But traditional, indigenous and hardy varieties are making a strong comeback.

Eleven years later, the farmers were able to increase the number of varieties planted in their plots to 64 from just three traditional and 15 closely related modern varieties, partly by breeding their own varieties and exchanging them with fellow farmers.

Through training on traditional and organic farming techniques provided by Searice, Salces said he learned to collect and select the best possible rice varieties for his farm.

Salces, who went to college for a year, has emerged as the most active plant breeder over the past 10 years, having developed and maintained 70 lines of rice varieties since he started breeding in 1996.

These high-quality varieties are now being exchanged and shared within and among communities in Bohol.

As of the last cropping season, 25 of the 87 farmer-partners in Bilar are in various stages of organic farm production.

Salces plants his own varieties in his farm and his production has gone up to 100 cavans.

Income increases

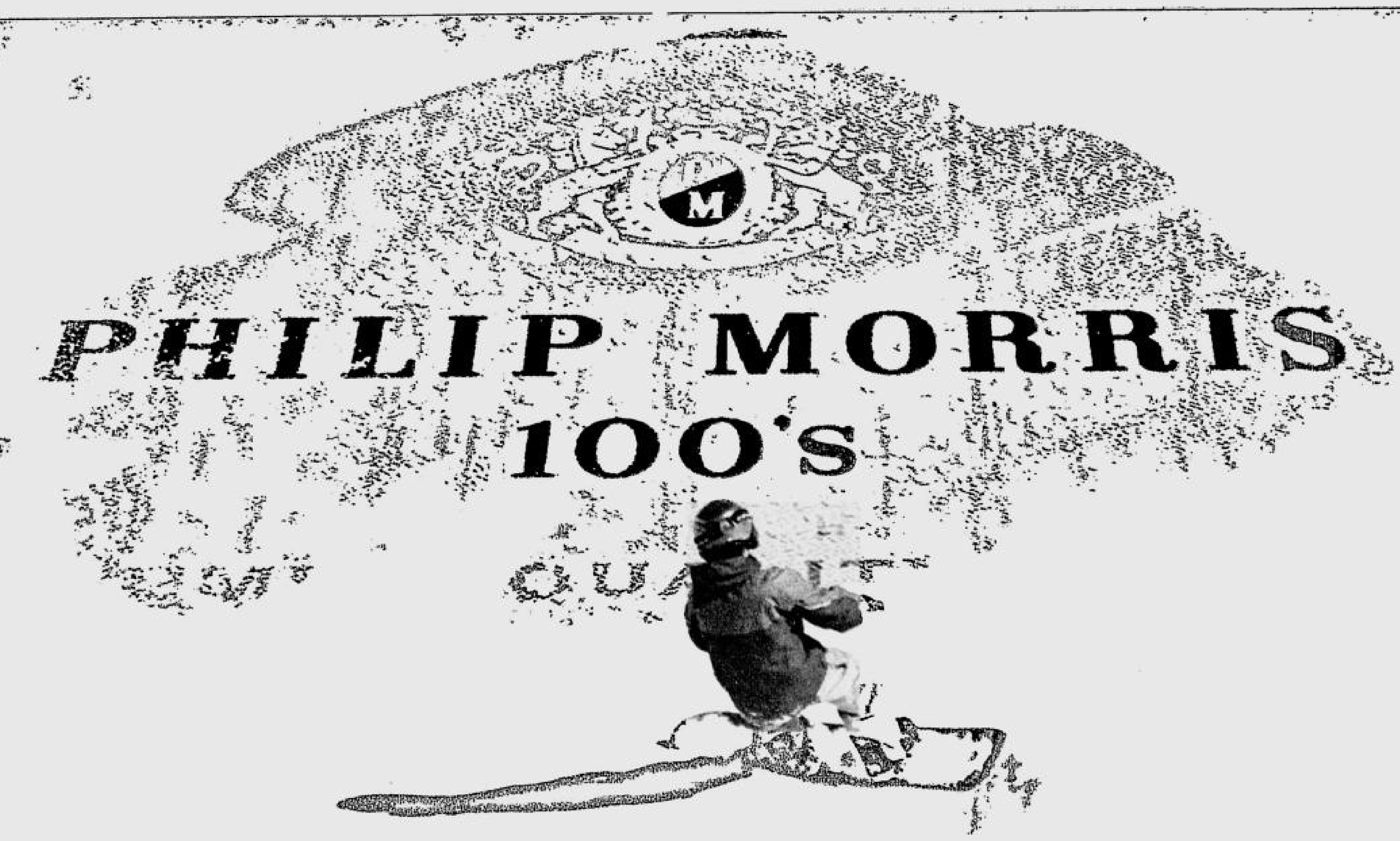
It is not too big a jump from his previous production of 80 cavans, but he is earning more because he no longer has to spend for fertilizer, according to Salces. He instead relies on organic fertilizer to support his farm.

Searice figures showed that eight years after farms were converted to sustainable or organic farming, gross income per hectare increased from P17,000 in 1995 from a yield of two tons or P8.50 a kilogram to P19,080 from a yield of 2.12 tons or P9 a kg.

During the period, average production cost dropped from P10,398.75 to P8,682.50, increasing the farmers' income per hectare to P10,397.50 each harvest from P6,601.25 in 1995.

Salces and the other farmers, together with Searice and the local government unit, are taking their project a step further with the planned launch of the Bilar Rice Genetic Resources and Agrobiodiversity Initiatives for Nature Tourism (Bilar Grain) on Oct. 19, on the last day of Searice's three-day Regional Rice Festival.

Searice, together with its partners from Bhutan, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam, will come to Bohol on Oct. 17-19 as part of World Food Day celebrations.



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7. All entries must be received by PMPMI not later than November 19, 2006. PMPMI and its agents will have no responsibility for lost, illegible, incomplete, misdirected, mutilated, postage due, or late entries.

8. The draw will be held on December 9, 2006 in the presence of a DOH-BFAD representative.

The following prizes will be drawn with the corresponding cash prize for the store/outlet owner:

Quantity	Prize	Cash Prize for Store/Outlet Owner
1	Trip for 2 to any winter destination	Php 75,000
10	Sony Ericsson K800I mobile phones	Php 10,000 each
30	Sony DSC-W50 digital cameras	Not applicable
80	Oakley Spike eyewear	Not applicable
120	Samsonite Inventure Duffle Bag	Not applicable

9. The names of the winners will be published in one of the leading newspapers not later than December 25, 2006. Winners will be notified via telegram as to when and where they can claim their prizes. By participating, the winners agree to the inclusion of their names and/or pictures in the Winners Advertisement.

10. Store/outlet owners have a chance to win cash prizes only for the Trip, Sony Ericsson W900i and Sony Cybershot T5 prizes. To qualify, the store/outlet owner must be at least 18 years old. In the event that the winner is also the store/outlet owner, he or she gets to win both the corresponding prize and the cash prize for the store/outlet.

11. If a winning entry does not bear the name and address of the store/outlet, the entry will still be valid but no store/outlet winner will be declared for the corresponding cash prize.

12. Prizes for winning adult smokers and store/outlet owners will only be awarded to the person whose name appears on the winning entry. Prizes not claimed within 60 days from publication of the winners, or notification of winners, whichever comes later, will be forfeited with the written approval of the DOH-BFAD.

13. The grand prize (Trip for 2 to any winter destination) is non-transferable, but is convertible to cash. In the event the winner fails to secure/ complete necessary documents for the trip such as passport or visa, and/ or does not want to take the trip, the monetary equivalent of the trip which is Php 500,000 shall be awarded. The Php 500,000 will be paid to the winner via check. Minor prizes are non-transferable and non-convertible to cash.

14. Grand prize winner should avail of the trip before December 30, 2007. They will be provided roundtrip air transportation to the country of choice, accommodations, regular daily meals, local transportation and other provisions as may be determined by PMPMI. Total cost for the trip for 2 should not exceed Php 500,000.

15. PMPMI reserves the right to change the dates, location, and events comprised in the trip or to cancel the trip if prevented or restricted from conducting the trip for reasons outside the control of PMPMI. In the event the trip is cancelled in its entirety, PMPMI will substitute the trip with Php 500,000.

16. Prior to going to the trip, grand prize winner and his/her companion will be required to execute or furnish such documentation as PMPMI may require, including but not limited to good health report, complete liability release, indemnification and waiver, and complete publicity release and undertaking.

17. Grand prize winner must have a valid Philippine passport and be eligible for and successfully secure a visa for the country chosen for the trip. PMPMI does not undertake nor guarantee the issuance of any visa to any of the winners. It will be the sole responsibility of all trip winners to secure their respective visas. PMPMI, however, will provide trip winners written certification pertinent to winning the raffle promotion. Non-eligibility or failure to secure the above mentioned travel documents will result in the awarding of Php 500,000 as monetary equivalent of the trip. All expenditures (e.g. transportation, lodging, fees etc.), that may be incurred in the procurement of their respective visas will be shouldered by the participants.

18. In claiming a prize, the winner must present the original notification telegram from PMPMI and two (2) original and valid identification documents (Driver's license, Passport, Birth Certificate) and Tax Identification Number (TIN). The IDs presented (singly or collectively) should show the following information below. If the IDs submitted do not contain the following three (3) pieces of information, it will not be accepted as valid proof of identification.

- Full Name
- Date of Birth or Age
- Signature

19. In case the winner is unable to present two (2) original and valid ID's acceptable to PMPMI, he/she must submit sworn affidavits, executed by two (2) disinterested persons attesting to his/her identity, and a certification from the responsible municipality/city official certifying that he/she is a resident of the said municipality/city.

20. In cases wherein the winner cannot personally claim the prize for any reason, he/she can send a proxy. The proxy should be able to present the following:
- A letter of authorization duly signed by the winner, nominating the proxy as the acknowledged recipient of the prize on the winner's behalf
- Two (2) original and valid ID's of the winner (singly or collectively showing the required information as mentioned in item 18)
- Two (2) original and valid ID's of the proxy
- Original copy of the notification telegram from PMPMI

21. Except as expressly provided in paragraph 10, an entrant can only win once. If a person is drawn more than once, the winner will receive the prize of the higher value and a winner for the other prize will be re-drawn.

22. Prizes will be supplied with standard dealers' warranties only, where available. PMPMI and its agents will not be liable with respect to: (i) any death or injury or consequential loss or damage arising from the use of any prize, (ii) any dealer's refusal to honor any warranty.

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25. All decisions of PMPMI and its agents are final and no objections will be entertained.

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Death of a bishop

EDITORIAL

THE KILLING OF BISHOP ALBERTO RAMENTO OF the Iglesia Filipina Independiente (IFI) delivers a strong shock to state-church relations. Even if one would take at face value the conclusion drawn by the police that the killing was "merely" caused by petty criminality, the crime still constitutes a damning indictment of both the state of public order across the land as well as the deteriorating relations between the state and the churches.

When one speaks of church-state relations, it is usually taken to mean the government's love-hate relationship with the powerful Roman Catholic Church. This owes both to habit and geopolitics inasmuch as the Catholic Church is, in the words of Claro M. Recto, "the more numerous church," and is historically the foil or spoiler to any state-sponsored initiative, indeed the determinant or catalyst of key turning points in the nation's history.

After the Catholic Church, the only other church that comes to the public's mind when one discusses church-state relations is the Iglesia ni Cristo. This is not surprising since the INC votes as a bloc which makes it a force in elections, the main showcase of political democracy.

What these notions mask is the presence of other churches which have their own ways of dealing with the state. In the case of the IFI, one finds a church that is as large, if not larger, than the INC and which has a history of political activism. While INC's modern gothic churches dot the landscape mainly of Luzon, the IFI has a more nationwide presence, with its churches evenly spread out not only in Luzon but in the Visayas and Mindanao as well. Ramento was a former *obispo maximo*, or pope, of the IFI.

More known as the Aglipayan Church, in reference to its founder, Gregorio Aglipay, the IFI is the national church that was born out of the Philippine Revolution against Spain. It separated from the papacy at that time but has since come to a modus vivendi with the Catholic Church, whose sacraments, liturgy and basic credo it shares.

Because of its nationalist origins, the Aglipayan Church has also a tradition of political activism. Aglipay in fact shares the founder's credit with Isabelo de los Reyes, who not only helped him establish the church but was also the father of labor unionism in the Philippines.

As a result, the IFI is perhaps the most political of all of the Christian churches, given to political activism and organizing and often taking strong positions against the establishment. While the Catholic Church often draws from its solid and strong body of social ethics teachings and even the liberation school of theology to craft its theological and pastoral responses to Philippine developments, it does not present a definite social blueprint or ideology. In contrast, the Aglipayan Church, being a nationalist church, has a more definite vision of utopia as manifested in an ideology of nationalism and a strategy of protest and activism. This tradition has been very much evident in the IFI's stand on the legitimacy of the Arroyo administration and its position on the government's war against the communist insurgency.

It is this context of history that gives rise to suspicion that Ramento's death was more than a case of robbery with homicide. Granted that the Tarlac police have acted quickly to arrest the suspects, it behooves the investigators nevertheless to entertain other angles and possibilities. When one considers that Ramento headed an Aglipayan diocese in the heart of Central Luzon, where an Army battalion has been carrying out a controversial war against the insurgents often at the cost of civilians caught in the crossfire, indeed at the cost of noncombatants whose only sin was to have been suspected of communist collaboration because they spoke out loud and freely registered their dissent, then Ramento's death cannot be simplistically taken as springing from petty criminality.

It is not inconceivable that as a bishop of a feudal hotspot, Ramento and his church haven't been exactly restrained in invoking the prophetic role of the Christian church in protesting social injustice and calling for a radical social overhaul. When one considers the policy against dissent of Jovito Palparan and the Army, and his egregious remarks that while he might have urged civilians to fight the communists and their supporters, he should not be made liable if they resorted to violence in doing his bidding, Ramento's death assumes a broader if not graver significance than what authorities would like us to see. A bishop's brutal killing cannot be just another item on the police blotter. A deeper probe is in order.

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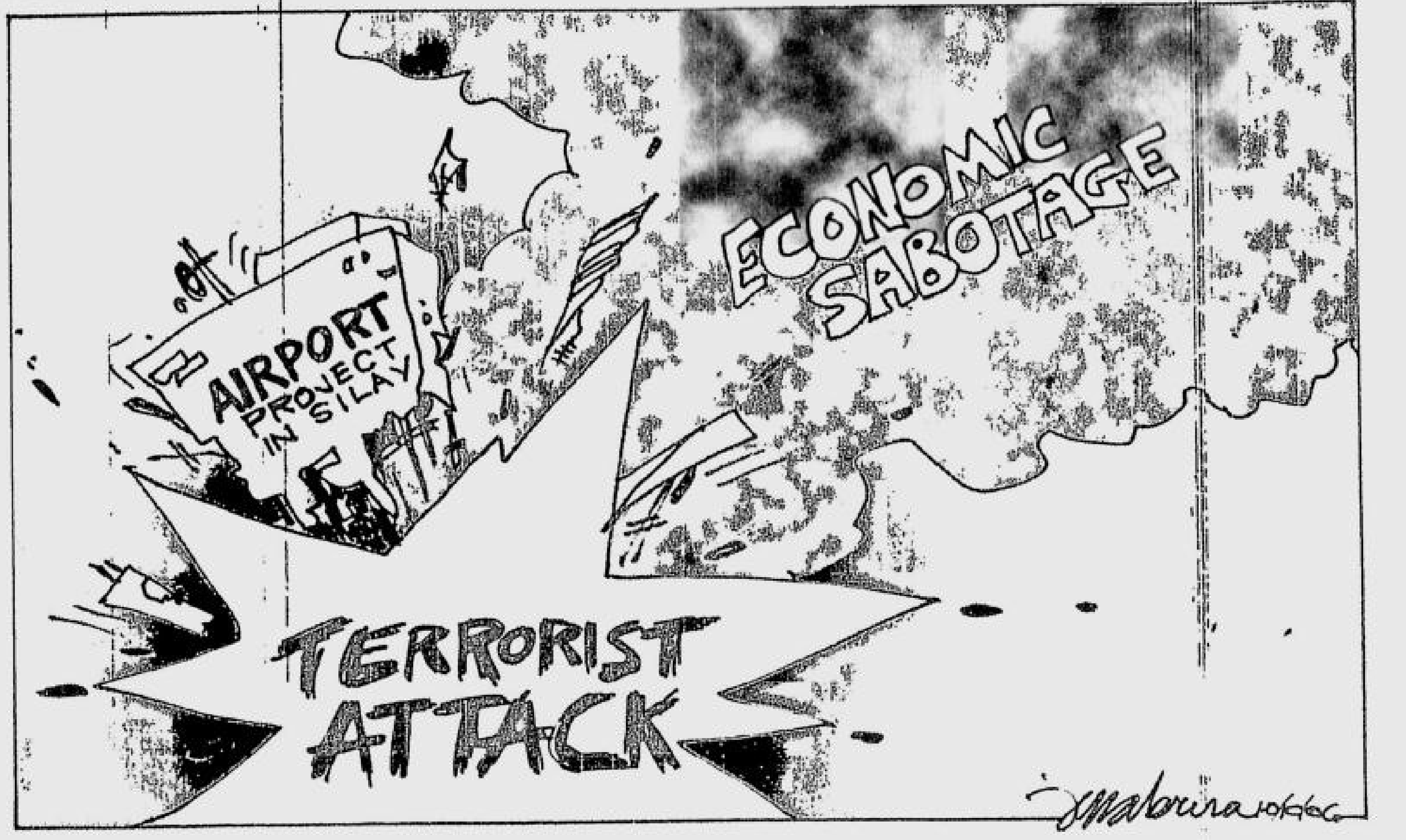

Powerful impotence

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

ILOILO CITY—"HAVE WE BECOME A COUNtry of *nabitin*?" the economist-friend asked over coffee. *"Nabitin"* means "left hanging." It connotes murky indecision that spawns open-ended problems by shutting out solutions.

His question had been sparked by a front-page report that Malacañang flipped-flopped on nursing students retaking leakage-marred exams. Labor Secretary Arturo Brion groused that the Palace left "the issue hanging unresolved" by dumping the scam on the courts, the story said. The President has ample powers to meet the issue head on.

"It usually takes the Court of Appeals years to resolve a case," Brion said. He should know, being a former Court of Appeals justice, respected for racking up a zero backlog of cases. Another name for executive impotence is *nabitin*.

"We're a nation, overloaded with unfinished business," agreed a lady demographer at the table. "Blame our *urong-sulong* habit which makes closure difficult." *"Urong"* means stop and *sulong* is advance.

The Supreme Court discovered that kleptomania in the Commission on Elections fractured the poll automation law, she recalled. From bid to contract, the Comelec pillaged a P1.3-billion award to 11-day-old Mega Pacific Consortium for 1,991 automatic counting machines vulnerable to fraud.

The Senate blue ribbon committee, chaired by the no-nonsense Sen. Joker Arroyo, reached the same conclusions in Report No. 44. It urged the commissioners to quit.

The Comelec ignored the Senate. It hasn't recovered a single centavo from Mega Pacific, as ordered by the Court. In fact, it ladles out P3.9 million a year to maintain them.

This is grand larceny. And it guts a crucial democratic pillar: the vote. Hunkered down in Switzerland, Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez defended her report that says no one, but no one, is guilty.

Is it *onli in da Pilipins* where looting occurs without looters? the demographer wondered. Is Ms Gutierrez then a reincarnated Aniano Desierto? She, certainly doesn't remind you of that ombudsman of probity, Simeon Marcelo. And this *nabitin* could land us in the Guinness Book of Records.

"Whatever happened to former Chief Justice Hilario Davide's proposals to reform a tattered Comelec?" asked an editor at the coffee clutch. No details were released. He proposed, among other things, that six persons of integrity replace tainted poll commissioners, as well as a ban on political dynasties and party-switching.

The President would implement the "doable," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said. That's all. Were Davide's proposals merely a photo-op for a President dodging electoral fraud charges? *Nabitin*.

"We suffer from short memories," the foundation executive noted. "We're always moving on to the next thing, as the headlines show. So, we never develop a vocabulary for continuity."

It has been 20 years since former Sen. Benigno Aquino was gunned down on the Manila airport tarmac, she pointed out. "The masterminds haven't been tracked down... A Ninoy Aquino International Airport terminal, still padlocked by wranglings, symbolizes this failure.

Aquino was an international figure. Few knew Epitacio Ocariza Jr., last week's 170th salvage victim of Cebu City's vigilantes. Both Aquino and Ocariza—or the 11 Kuratong Baleleng gang members rubbed out in May 1995—had the same right to God-given life. So did murdered journalists and activists. All of us come from the same clay. But those who order, or tolerate, summary executions, arrogate unto themselves what belongs only to the Author of Life. "Have you ever commanded the morning or guided the dawn to its place?" God asked Job. "Have you looked through the gates of death?"

In the Kuratong Baleleng summary executions, witnesses and families of victims, one by one filed those well-known *nabitin* instruments called affidavits of desistance. In Cebu, none of the 174 salvaging cases has been solved, embedding further a culture of impunity.

Do law enforcers bother if the victims are *naka tsinelas* (ill shod)? "The worst sin toward our fellow creatures is not to hate them but to be indifferent to them," George Bernard Shaw once wrote. "That is the essence of inhumanity."

A breakdown in law enforcement leads to miscarriage of justice. It erodes trust in government which is the foundation of a nation. "We will not seek justice," Ocariza's younger sister Shiela wearily said. The family is convinced their brother will become just another dreary statistic under the present dispensation.

That coffee break resulted in notes on some notorious, now half-forgotten but unresolved issues. Taxpayers, for example, still shell out $155,000 daily for a 32-year-old mothballed Bataan nuclear plant that never generated a single watt of power. The Garci tapes on poll irregularities has dropped from the radar screen. So, has the search for former Sen. Gregorio Honasan who skipped town for involvement in coups. The notorious coconut levy has been buried in the Senate brawl with the Presidential Commission on Good Government.

"Obviously, we've merely skimmed this mess," our economist friend noted. "Cebu Daily News readers can do a public service if they write in about issues still hanging."

In a 1936 House of Commons' address, Winston Churchill flayed the government for going "on in strange paradox, decided only to be undecided, resolved to be irresolute, adamant for drift, solid for fluidity, all powerful for impotence."

Filipinos could whittle down that superb peroration into one word: *nabitin*.

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Cheating

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

PANFILO LACSON SAYS GMA DOES RIGHT to blow hot and cold on the issue of whether this year's prospective nurses should retake the licensure exams or not. "It is a rare but welcome sign of good judgment on the part of Malacañang to stay on the side of prudence on the matter."

Aquilino Pimentel says the opposite: "The President's flip-flopping on the issue of the retake of the exam smacks of her wishy-washy approach in resolving controversies and her insensitivity to the ordeals of the nursing graduates whose future in their chosen career is now in limbo. Yesterday, she wanted to annul the exam. Today, she hedges. That is exactly what we see in her administration."

They both miss the point.

Of course, the candidates ought to retake the exams. I argued this point the last time around. I agreed completely with the UST officials who had been heroically pushing for this course of action despite much adverse opinion, notably from the examinees themselves. Quite simply, the good outweighs the bad, the advantages outweigh the disadvantages. I can understand how those who passed the exams honestly would feel personally cheated at being made to take them all over again, if not indeed robbed of precious time and resources. But what choice is there? To not retake the exams is to bring the stigma of being a cheat, or the suspicion of it, on one's head for the rest of one's life. With the most devastating consequences for one's future. No one will want to hire you anyway under those conditions, other than at exploitative rates.

Having just come from the United States, which is where many of the examinees dream of going, I do have some idea of the impact the news of the tainted licensure exams has had there. The Filipino community is monumentally dismayed by it. And what is monumental dismay to the Filipino community can easily be monumental distrust to the American hospitals. The successful examinees don't retake the test, they will have their applications for work abroad scrutinized by their prospective employers more ferociously than their applications for visas by the US and British embassies.

That is so in particular in light of recent revelations that the cheating was more widespread than originally supposed. Indeed, widespread in more ways than one: It didn't just occur as well in other parts of the country, like Tacloban and Davao, it occurred not just in a couple of sets in the five-set exam but in pretty much all of it. No one who has taken this exam, successfully or not, will ever be able to shed off the odor of scandal that suffuses it. In the end, the cost of "passing" this exam will be far more onerous than anyone of them can bear.

But which behooves the authorities to exert themselves to make sure that the culprits are truly caught and jailed for being the criminals that they are. They have not just robbed people, many of them from poor families, of their meager resources, they have robbed them of an even more meager future. This may not be a case where the innocent are rewarded or even spared, but must be a case where the guilty are punished and made an example of. We owe it to those who have been deeply harmed by this to do so.

As to Pimentel's point, of course, GMA has been flip-flopping, and of course that is what her administration has always been. Unless the issue has to do with her, in which case she acts with iron resolve: She bashes the heads of her enemies. But whether GMA has a tendency to flip-flop or act purposefully is not the issue here. The issue here, which stares us right in the face, is the breathtaking irony of GMA even thinking to want to intervene in this scandal. Indeed, saying that this thing has got to be dealt with because the honor and integrity of the country, if not the remittances of the new entrants to the OFW workforce, are at stake.

What is this a case of? This is a case of massive cheating. This is a case of people, in whose hands will be left the care of the sick and helpless, proposing to do so without (at least for those who did cheat) having the qualifications for it. Never mind the honor and integrity of the country, think of the poor bastards who will be placed under their tender mercies.

Well, what was the last presidential election all about? It was a case of massive cheating. It was a case of someone in whose hands would be left the care of a sick and dying country proposing to hurry it up to its grave. Never mind the nurses who might not add to the remittances Pidal means to loot because of the flawed exams. Mind only the 85 million or so Filipinos whose lives have just been made hell.

Can anything be more hysterically funny, or a brilliant if unwitting exercise in self-satire, than GMA telling the prospective nurses they have to take the exams again because many of them cheated in the last one? The same reasons for requiring new exams are the same reasons for requiring new elections. No, they are more than the same reasons. Far, far more. The stakes in elections are higher. The price to pay for cheating in elections is steeper. If this country cannot survive the reputation of having fake nurses, it will survive even less the reality of having a fake president.

I agree with all the reasons Prospero Pichay, Eduardo Ermita and GMA herself have trotted out for new exams. I agree that the honor, integrity and sanctity of the nation are at stake. I agree that it is necessary, urgent and pressing. Cheating impairs everything that is good and just in a country. The nurses must take the exams again.

We must vote for president again.

* * *

Tonight, the Stop the Killings bar tour stops at My Brother's Mustache, Scout Tuason corner Scout Madriñan, Quezon City. Noel Cabangon, Chikoy Pura, Isha, and Susan Fernandez will be playing. Be there, don't let anything stop you.

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Doing right by the nation

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

IN A FEW DAYS, BOTH SIDES IN THE PEOPLE'S initiative issue pending before the Supreme Court will present their respective comments. Before the end of this month, the Court is expected to hand down its decision on the validity of initiative as a mechanism for changing the Constitution. Thus, in a very real sense, in the hands of just over a dozen men and women will lie the destiny of this country. They will decide whether or not it would be made more progressive and equipped for the frightfully competitive global era, or whether it will continue to be hamstrung by a presidential and bicameral system that has not served us well in the past 60 years. The high magistrates' decision will be epochal and felt perhaps for generations. Their power over our nation's fate is an awesome responsibility. May the Holy Spirit enlighten them to do what is right by the nation.

* * *

Those who oppose people's initiative have tried to make a lot of some allegedly fake signatures among the 6.3 million gathered by initiative advocates to fulfill the constitutional requirement of 12 percent of total registered voters. That is of no moment, for the advocates have gathered close to 10 million signatures, except that the Comelec could only verify 6.3 million prior to the self-imposed deadline for submission. It's easy to see that the 12 percent requirement has been more than met. What's more important, however, is that those in favor of Charter change has increased from just 2 percent last year to 52 percent or more than half of our population.

Critics assert that the 6.3 million signatures were solicited by local government officials, and thus are not truly the people's voice. This is ridiculous! Aren't local officials the people's leaders? In any plebiscite, including President Corazon Aquino's 1987 plebiscite, weren't the local officials in the forefront? That didn't make the plebiscite any less valid.

* * *

There's also the splitting of hairs by lawyers between an amendment and a revision, with critics opining that initiative cannot involve a revision. But as generally understood by English-speaking people, the words "amend" and "revise" are interchangeably used to mean "change." Law practitioners also interchange these terms freely, noting that a number of English law dictionaries such as "Black's Law Dictionary," as well as the Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language Unabridged note the similarity between these terms. Moreover, lawyers point out that in the case of Del Rosario vs. Carbonell, the Supreme Court ruled that "amendment includes 'the revision' or total overhaul of the Constitution."

What matters, ultimately, is that the 1987 Constitution enshrined the people's sovereignty by including people's initiative as one of three mechanisms for Charter change. The current clamor to throw back to the people the decision to amend or not to amend the document that will rule their lives is very much in order.

* * *

At the recent marathon hearing conducted by the Supreme Court on initiative, Associate Justice Reynato Puno said that in view of the many ambiguities it raised, it might be worthwhile to "revisit" the Court's 1997 decision in Santiago vs. Comelec, that struck down people's initiative. The ability to revisit a decision reminds me of that anecdote about Abraham Lincoln, who, as a young lawyer, had to plead two cases on the same day before the same judge. Both involved the same principle of law, but in one case, Lincoln appeared for the defendant and in the other for the plaintiff. In the morning, he entered an eloquent plea and won his case. In the afternoon, he took the opposite side, arguing with equal earnestness. The judge asked the young Lincoln why his change of attitude. "Your Honor, I may have been wrong this morning, but I know that I'm right this afternoon," he replied.

* * *

Former Ifugao Gov. Teddy Baguilat has been very concerned about the state of our world-famous rice terraces, a Unesco World Heritage. Now that he is no longer in office, he has found more time to mobilize efforts to save and restore the rice terraces. Sadly, a number have been abandoned, as the younger generation seeks more profitable jobs in the lowlands. This has moved Baguilat and his friends to organize the Save the Terraces Movement (Sitmo). A major concern of Sitmo is to raise funds for the terraces' restoration and its principal vehicle is the creative Loda Package Tour of Banawe and environs. Costing P2,800 per participant, the tour package will run from Oct. 27-29, 2006, and is designed to heighten awareness of the terraces' present condition.

Sitmo's package tour is being coordinated by Bridges Travel. The fee includes transportation within Ifugao, all meals, lodging in dormitory-type accommodations on the first day and a family inn on the second day; sightseeing with a guide; all fees; souvenir T-shirts; and a cultural presentation. The tour includes a picnic in some pristine spots such as the Bagnit or Uttu Waterfalls, viewing the terraces from the Bangaan Family Inn, shopping in Banaue and tour of the Kiangan War Memorial Shrine.

* * *

What makes the tour package a unique and exciting experience is that participants will get involved in *loda*, which means opening some rice terraces or restoring others. The activities include recovering eroded portions, cleaning the paddies and their walls, and stonewalling and tilling them—all through the traditional system of *ubbu* or *bayanihan*. Those who do not wish to take part in such activities can help prepare the food, such as *binakle* (rice cake), or do some traditional weaving or rice-wine making. For particulars, call April Bulahao, (090) 667-64798; Polen Manangan (090) 667-98373, or Teddy Baguilat at 0920-910-8253, or at sitmo311@gmail.com, or Joan Alonte at 750-3372 up to 75.

Wealth equals health?

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

DOES WEALTH TRANSLATE INTO HEALTH? Put another way, do the wealthiest nations create the healthiest citizens? It seems a matter of common sense that as citizens of wealthy nations become themselves wealthy, or at least comfortable, they would be spending more on keeping themselves and their families healthy.

Two visiting researchers, Philip Stevens of the International Policy Network and Barun Mitra of the India-based Liberty Institute, assert that this is so, with Stevens acknowledging that while "rising incomes do lead to wider health inequalities," at least "everyone's health improves."

Still, this assertion would seem to be belied by national health indicators as tracked by the United Nations. Take the United States and Cuba, the first touted as the world's sole superpower, a country of great wealth, military power and political influence; the second a small island nation following the socialist model, politically and economically isolated, and of decidedly much humbler circumstance. And yet human development indicators, especially concerning health, would place the US and Cuba on almost equal footing. In the 2006 "State of the World's Children" report of Unicef, both countries have about the same under-5 child mortality rates (8 per 100 thousand for the US, 7 per 100 thousand for Cuba), and they are also fairly even in terms of pre-natal care coverage and delivery with trained attendants (99 percent for the US, 100 percent for Cuba). One indicator where there is great divergence, though, and where the US does better is the maternal mortality rate, with the US reporting 8 deaths per 100,000, while Cuba reports 34 deaths.

But Mitra, who hails from India, asks: "At what cost has Cuba's vaunted health system come?" While the state indeed has given priority to health spending, he says, it has come at a huge cost, particularly the collapse of the economy, which has in turn led to the diversion of a host of its health resources to serve "medical tourists" from other countries, including the US.

* * *

STEVENS and Mitra were guests at the recent "Health Policy Symposium" on "Determinants of Health: A Public Policy Perspective" held at the Asian Institute of Management, hosted by the AIM Health Management Program.

In an interview after the symposium, Stevens and Mitra sought to counter "conventional wisdom" that the only way to improve public health is to encourage public investment in health. "Healthcare is very expensive," asserts Mitra, and though people often view health as a "basic service" (and human right) that government is obligated to provide, "people will have to pay for it somehow," be it through taxes, fees, insurance coverage, or out-of-pocket expenses.

Stevens, citing the experience of his native United Kingdom where the National Health Service has proven to be less than a success, says the evidence shows much public spending on health goes to waste, mainly through inefficiency and corruption as well as because "interventions aimed at the poor are captured by more influential elites."

What has happened in Britain, he says, is that without any of the "normal economic incentives" that encourage competition and choice, health services have been polarized into a public sector where services for the poor are below par and there is little incentive to provide quality service, and a top-notch private sector that caters to people who can afford to "opt out" of the National Health Service.

* * *

THAT depiction would in fact apply to the Philippines as well. But while in the UK decline in quality is at least made up for by universal (or fairly universal) coverage, health services in the Philippines are spotty at best: severely lacking in some areas, unreliable in the public health service, and high quality but fairly expensive in the private sector.

Stevens and Mitra detect various ways by which Filipinos have chosen to "opt out" of the health system, and not just with the rich and middle-class eschewing the long queues and long waits at government hospitals for their own private doctors. People's enduring loyalty to and patronage of traditional healers and the growing popularity of herbal "food supplements" are signs of how people are choosing non-traditional methods and medications outside of Western medicine for their healthcare needs.

Mitra would also urge policy makers to examine "where the bottlenecks are" in the health system that have led to, among other things, the out-migration of health professionals, especially doctors and nurses. "Why is there no incentive for them to stay?" he asks.

* * *

PART of this detailed examination of the health system, adds Stevens, should be an audit of "the hidden costs of regulation" imposed by government on the private health sector—from licensing of clinics and hospitals, to testing and marketing of drugs. In many parts of the world, he says, regulations are what are making health services expensive and thus inaccessible. Prices of medicine, adds Stevens, would be cut drastically if governments only reduced the taxes and tariffs imposed on imported drugs.

Mitra cites the example of India, which in the 1970s decided to legislate "off-patent" regulations that made it possible for indigenous pharmaceutical companies to create and market their own generic drugs. But with the Indian pharmaceutical industry itself growing so huge it had begun to eye export markets, these same companies began to lobby their own government to impose intellectual property regimes on their own products, "because it began to make economic sense to them."

GMA and FVR in Hawaii

COMMENTARY

Belinda A. Aquino

HONOLULU—AMONG ALL THE STATES IN the US, Hawaii is the most frequently visited by Philippine presidents, in or out of office. It's a logical "stopover" mainly because of two factors. One is geography. It's an idyllic island state in the middle of the Pacific with the highest quality of life in the nation. It's also a mid-point between the US mainland and Asia, and you might as well stop here since a continuous flight from any point in America to Manila will take all of 17 hours if not more—too long and boring.

The second factor is the large Filipino community in Hawaii. Percentage-wise, this state has the largest population (23 percent) of Filipino ancestry in North America. It feels like home especially if you are from the Ilocos. Visitors will always find a relative, a friend, a colleague, a significant other, or even an enemy, here.

It might also be added that Hawaii is a place of refuge for presidents or heads of state who become dictators or scoundrels in their own countries, reminiscent of Michener's "Rascals in Paradise."

Within two weeks of each other in September, both President Macapagal-Arroyo and former President Fidel V. Ramos were guests in Hawaii, which is observing the Filipino Centennial Year marking the arrival of the first 15 plantation workers in Hawaii in 1906. Both were received generally enthusiastically by various groups of Filipinos in the state. The joke is they can run for public office in Hawaii and win.

GMA was at the tail-end of a whirlwind global trip which took her to Finland, London, Belgium, Cuba. Arriving in Honolulu after a long flight from Havana, she handled a rigorous schedule involving five public ceremonies, including unveiling a *sakada* statue flown in from Manila, honoring Filipino-American veterans of World War II, visiting the Honolulu Academy of Arts, an interview by the Honolulu Advertiser, and dinner with Gov. Linda Lingle, who visited the Philippines in January. The President was whisked to the airport later that evening, tying up traffic, for the flight to Manila, where, it was reported, she went to work at once when she arrived. Some observers asked if she ever gets to sleep at all.

Others complained that they were not invited to the unveiling at the Filipino Community Center, which had a capacity of only a few hundred seats. For security purposes, the ceremony was done inside, not outside the Center where there would have been more space. So fewer people got to see her.

Coming in, she was confronted by a small group of AnakBayan demonstrators calling attention to the spate of extrajudicial killings in the Philippines reported by Amnesty International.

Her interview with the Honolulu Advertiser got full spread coverage, which explained some of her current initiatives, including convening a special commission to investigate the killings. The paper had editorialized the previous day that the President should address human rights issues. She indicated that she would "pursue every lead, down every path." She ended by saying she'd like her legacy to be "the fact that I did the most fundamental economic reforms."

FVR came as the guest speaker of the global convention of the National Federation of Filipino-American Associations (NaFFAA). He spoke on the 100 years of the "Filipino Diaspora," citing as a model what the 50 million overseas Chinese have done. He lauded NaFFAA's efforts to bring overseas Filipinos into a global network, which could succeed if all "join hands in unity, solidarity and teamwork." He called factionalism a "Filipino disease." Not really. It's a disease of society in general and politics in particular.

Speaking at smaller dinner party hosted by the Pacific Basin Economic Council (PBEC) and the Pacific Asian Affairs Council (PAAC), FVR showed an amazingly comprehensive knowledge of the Asia Pacific region, not just from a security perspective. He talked about Japan, China, the US and Asean with relative ease. He has his own foundation on peace and development, which requires him to travel to various places in the Asia Pacific. He has been associated with PBEC for some time and its head, Robert Lees, who's currently based in Hong Kong. The organization has global operations. The PAAC, which is based in Hawaii, promotes greater awareness and understanding of international affairs and works to strengthen Hawaii's role in the Asia-Pacific region. It often brings to Hawaii foreign leaders to lecture on special topics.

Asked if it's true that he might have a political role in the near future if Charter change were to take place, such as possibly becoming prime minister, he dead-panned, "No. That would be a demotion!" He indicated, however, that Cha-cha is in the right direction, if only to break the political stalemate that's going on in the Philippines. It signifies moving at least, a political movement rather than a stalemate.

He gave a long and complex explanation of his no answer, but I'm afraid it would lose its essence if I summarized it in this limited space. The thing to remember is that FVR is still very much around. He is still a factor, in fact a major player, in current Philippine politics. His "peace and development" foundation activities give him an international forum for his ideas and a continuing presence in the political arena.

Belinda A. Aquino is professor of political science and Asian studies at the University of Hawaii at Manoa where she is also director of the Center for Philippine Studies.

'Bugtaw!'

YOUNG BLOOD

Cecile Adrias

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—Ed.

THE ILONGGO HAS SUDDENLY FOUND HIMSELF ON NAtional TV and in the newspapers almost every day since August 11. Unlike "Starstruck" survivors, however, the Ilonggo is dumbstruck. He does not know what hit him yet, although it has been weeks since tragedy struck.

I must admit that for about a week after I heard about the oil spill in Guimaras, I was indifferent to it. I knew it was something grave, having read about Exxon Valdez when I was still in high school, but the reality did not sink in quickly.

My first impulse was to text a friend who has an abalone farm in Guisi, one of the beaches near the site of the spill. I asked her if the oil slick had reached her farm, and she told me it had not. A week later, she sadly told me that the slick had finally reached the farm and that her husband doubted whether the business he had built, the first commercial abalone hatchery in the Philippines, would survive.

That was when I became concerned about the problem. I had gone snorkeling at the farm a year ago. I spent endless hours with Dory and Nemo and their friends in their colorful world. In fact I had been nagging my friend to invite me there again. We sighed and regretted that we could not find the time to return. I had planned to snorkel there with my kids someday. But that dream is no more, and not only because I have no boyfriend but because of that blasted oil spill. *Gad danggit!*

The first thing I had to do as a teacher, aside from correcting the pronunciation (spil—short i, not the grinning i in speel), was to discuss its implications. I felt like I was Demosthenes, with the wisdom of Al Gore and the passion of a Greenpeace warrior. Heck, I even quoted Michael Jackson (you know, "Heal the World"). We were at a loss about what we could do. I could not ask my students to just pray, right? (I am not Cory Aquino).

But with awareness came analysis and then proposed action. We thought that cutting our lustrous locks was out of the question. We wanted to do something but we did not know exactly what. Thankfully, the very next week, the school launched a campaign to gather as many empty mineral water bottles to make improvised spill boom. The students worked themselves into frenzy. They combed every restaurant, mall, *tiangge*, school, market and hospital in the city to look for plastic bottles. And at the end of four days, they had gathered enough bottles to fill five dump trucks! The staff of the mayor of Jordan, to whom we turned over the bottles, could only shake their heads. Had they known, they said, they would not have spent P50,000 buying bottles from junk shops.

I could not gloat over this feat for long because just days later I saw for myself the damage wrought by the oils spill when I visited Barangay Losaran. "Oh, there is just so much work that needs to be done!" I thought to myself. I was at a loss for words to describe what I saw and heard.

What struck me most was the sight of fisherman in full clean up gear *kuno* (mask, galoshes, long sleeves, gloves) raking leaves that had been washed to the shore and then stuffing them into a sack. "For processing," one of them explained. He said he was being paid P300 a day. But I wondered for how long he would be doing it.

It is frustrating for me to watch people there go about their task as if in Zen-like trance. Just raking. Just stuffing the leaves into the sack. Just going on with their lives, hopefully until everything returned to normal.

A doctor who interviewed the victims confirmed this seeming indifference among the residents of the affected areas. There was no hint of anger when they related their stories. Did they realize that they and their children had just been raped? The social, ecological and economic stain caused by the spill cannot be willed to vanish by spraying chemicals.

I was not amused to hear the mayor of Nueva Valencia say that there was now a new kind of tourism in Guimaras: "calamity tourism." He noted that he had never seen so many people visiting their town in the past.

But I agreed with him when he said the tanker should be pulled up from the depths. He cited conflicting "expert opinions" about what needed to be done to the tanker.

What we are doing now is applying short-term solutions to a long-term problem. Already there is the endangered family of manatees/dugongs which like to feed on two different species of sea grass off Bala-an Bukid on the other side of Guimaras. Recently a whale got beached and did not survive. Whoever said this disaster is a ticking time bomb is correct. There is no time for politicking and speaking endlessly before TV cameras and flashbulbs. I do not want to hear again my least favorite Ilonggo, Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez (who likes to dangle and misplace modifiers in his "wise" sayings plastered on the walls of our city's useless overpasses), absolve Petron of any liability for the disaster. There is no other day but today for Ilonggos—and Filipinos—to do what needs to be done to save Guimaras.

Consider this: Ilonggos cannot take leisurely Sunday lunches at Villa Beach anymore if the slick reaches our shores. We will have to pay more for the fresh *tuloy* or *tangugie* that we crave for. We will have to go all the way to Boracay or Antique to enjoy the beach. That is if we don't help ourselves now.

The cynics may sniff and scoff, but an oil spill is an oil spill. The cleanup of the Semirara oil spill has not been finished until now. And that happened five years ago!

Guimaras can overcome this tragedy if the *bayanihan* spirit guides our people. There will always be people who are willing to help. The Filipinos, and especially the Ilonggos, must be there for Guimaras. While some have snapped out of their stupor, the ordinary Ilonggos have not. In my frustration, sometimes I think of whacking their lazy butts and shouting into their ears "*Hoy, bugtaw!*" (Wake up!) Sooner than they realize it, they will feel the effects of the disaster. And then they will know that they are part of the web of life.

Cecile Adrias, 27, teaches in Assumption-Iloilo.

NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS:

Send your contributions by e-mail to youngblood@inquirer.com.ph together with your address, age and the school, course and year you're enrolled in or, if employed, the position you're holding and the company you work with. Contributions to Youngblood should not have been previously published.

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Hidalgo and Rosero in the eyes of GMA

I BELIEVE THAT GLORIA MACApagal-Arroyo and Professional Regulation Commission chair Leonor Tripon-Rosero are acting out a poorly written script.

Look: GMA orders a retake of the leaked portions of the June 2006 nursing board exam. Immediately, Rosero, her personal dentist, announces to the nation that she would listen to no one but the court. The always combative GMA lets the comment pass. She does not castigate her alter ego under the PRC Modernization Law. Is this a dream? Where is the GMA who publicly berated Acting Education Secretary Fe Hidalgo for claiming that our public school system is suffering from acute lack of classrooms?

GMA has been soft on the PRC head since day one. The leakage issue was a manageable one, but Rosero's mishandling caused it to metamorphose into a scandal of international magnitude. It embarrassed the nation. It caused the examinees and their families untold anguish and sufferings. There is no doubt that Rosero's head must roll. It should have rolled a long time ago.

But then again, one should not wonder why Hidalgo and Rosero were not similarly treated by GMA. Hidalgo was on the side of truth, Rosero has chosen to take the opposite side.

Because of government indecisiveness on the leakage controversy, we are still on a stalemate. The real victims here, aside from the nursing profession, are the innocent examinees. Whether it is retake or no-retake, a "win-win" solution is beyond their reach. It is unjust to require them to retake an examination where they did not cheat. It is also unjust to not hold a retake because that is the only way to remove the stigma caused by PRC's incompetence.

The victims will retake the exam. Some will do it gladly and will be thankful for the decision. More will do it grudgingly and may even blame the Cordillera-based whistle-blowers who are actually the unsung heroes—though not everyone realizes this yet. These victims cry for what approximates justice—the guilty must be punished—and punished soon. The PRC officials who aggravated their troubles should go—and go fast!

—CHERYL L. DAYTEC-YAÑGOT,
Counsel for the "Baguio Braves" who exposed the leakage, St. Louis University, Baguio City,
chytdaytec@gmail.com

Greed behind billboard accidents

I AM PAINED BY THE BAD PUBlicity the outdoor advertising industry is going through these days. I have been in the business for the past 40 years. That is also how long I have been a widow. Needless to say, the industry supported the education of my seven children after my husband died.

Outdoor advertising is like any media; when abused, it causes many problems.

When I was president of the Outdoor Advertisers Association of the Philippines for 10 years, our members were few and ethical, and we survived.

The "billboard accidents" we have experienced were caused by greed. We want more, lot owners charge more, the city halls want more—and so the rates go up and up, and so billboards go three stories high, as high as—or even higher than—condominiums. With the advent of tarpaulin printing, we have to make the billboard images bigger.

Creativity in outdoor advertising copy is lost. Billboards are all faces and bodies, not catchy, creative slogans of companies and products. And so again billboards have to go big and bigger, high and higher. Some multinational companies like Philip Morris are the few advertisers that stick to their international standard of small size 11" x 34" but catchy slogans.

We should regulate not only the billboard size and height but also their number. Definitely, we are now literally faced with billboard clutter-in highways. Billboards should not be allowed in government property, whether they are MRT posts or overpasses, lamp posts, waiting sheds, etc. Do you know where the site rentals of these signboards go? Public officials should also be prohibited from using government property for advertising display.

Let us strictly regulate the size, height and number of billboards now before it's too late-again.

—TESSIE DAZA,
person11_29@yahoo.com

Word of thanks for Meralco

MERALCO HAS BEEN ON THE job from the moment typhoon "Milenyo" caused a blackout in Central Luzon. Restoring power was twice as difficult because of felled trees and poles. Toppled billboards with gigantic steel frames compounded the problem.

It has taken a week to reenergize our village. The Meralco and Aveco trucks and crew were constantly at work. I talked to a team supervisor and he informed me that they were on 24-hour duty. I thanked him for their service.

Considering the massive destruction and devastation caused by the killer typhoon, Meralco deserves our appreciation and thanks for its dedicated effort to restore power and brighten our lives.

—ISABEL CARO WILSON,
P. O. Box 1475, Makati City

WB award nothing to crow about

I WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT ON a news item headlined "RP 'best' in youth migration, says World Bank." (PDI, 10/1/06)

I believe it looked pathetic that the Philippines was "awarded" such a title—as if having our bright young minds work abroad is an achievement.

During these times, when the vigor of youth is needed to catalyze and bring dynamism back to the various sectors of our society, our country and government must do whatever they can to encourage the young to stay. The modernity and idealism that our young possess can bring the Philippines at par with other successful nations.

Some say that letting the youth go abroad solves the problem of overpopulation and unemployment. However, they fail to see that the heart of the problem of overpopulation is not in the number of people, but in their quality—and how disciplined, responsible and proactive they are.

I urge the government to act upon this seemingly insignificant problem before it is too late. First, let us improve the quality of our education in order to improve the quality of our people. Then let us keep our young in the Philippines—and watch them as they change our country for the better.

Currently, the land we are tilling may seem tough and not suited for planting. But in time, the harvests of our labor will be rich and abundant.

—XYRRO ZEDRIK V. RAYMUNDO,
xyrro@yahoo.com

YOUNG kids play games at an Internet café.

Proliferation of Internet cafés a bane to young children

I AM A PARENT AND I AM VERY much concerned about the proliferation of Internet cafés. While Internet cafés appear to be a boon, they have become a bane for us parents. A boon because they gave our students (especially those who can't afford PCs and Internet service at home) access to a much wider field of research materials for their studies. And with more Internet cafés, the Internet services rate has gone down to the benefit of our poorer students.

But they are, in a sense, also a bane these days. During class hours, most of these Internet shops are jam-packed with elementary and high school students playing computer games. The operators of these establishments seem not to care that these students are playing during class hours and that, as their social responsibility, they should not allow this. Worse, local government authorities appear to be tolerating this practice which is a violation of a city ordinance.

—LOUIE GAWIL,
lgawil@yahoo.com

Cheating in licensure exams is economic sabotage

I DISAGREE WITH THE PRESIdent's decision on the retake of the June 2006 nursing board examinations for the following reasons:

1) It has been proven that the leaked test questions only circulated among those who took the exams in Baguio City and the National Capital Region;

2) The leaked questions only came from two sections of the exams;

3) The passing or failing grades of examinees can still be evaluated even without the retake of the exams;

Under the circumstances, why punish all the examinees when not all of them benefited from or could be blamed for the leakage? Why punish Visayas and Mindanao examinees who were unaware of it?

Besides, we should not lose sight of the reason government licensure exams are administered. A government licensure exam is meant to determine whether or not the examinees have the minimum amount of knowledge required for the practice of a particular regulated profession.

The examinees are graduates of nursing schools all licensed by the government. In other words, these examinees are guaranteed by government-licensed schools that they have the minimum amount of knowledge required by the government for the practice of the nursing profession.

If these nursing schools were not competent to make this guarantee, the government would have revoked their licenses to operate as nursing schools. But the graduates of duly licensed nursing schools must be given the benefit of the doubt in this case.

So, what should be done in this case?

1. Disregard the leaked sections but uphold the results of the uncompromised sections. Distribute the weight of the leaked sections to the other upheld sections. Or simply base the passing percentage on the point total of the uncompromised sections (i.e., same passing percentage but using a new denominator);

2. The examinees are not the ones to be punished. Punish those responsible for the leakage! And I suggest that we make cheating in government licensure examinations a crime tantamount to economic sabotage, given the financial hardships that a retake is surely to impose on the families of the examinees.

—AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III,
Suite 2106, Atlanta Center, No. 31 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan, 1503 Metro Manila

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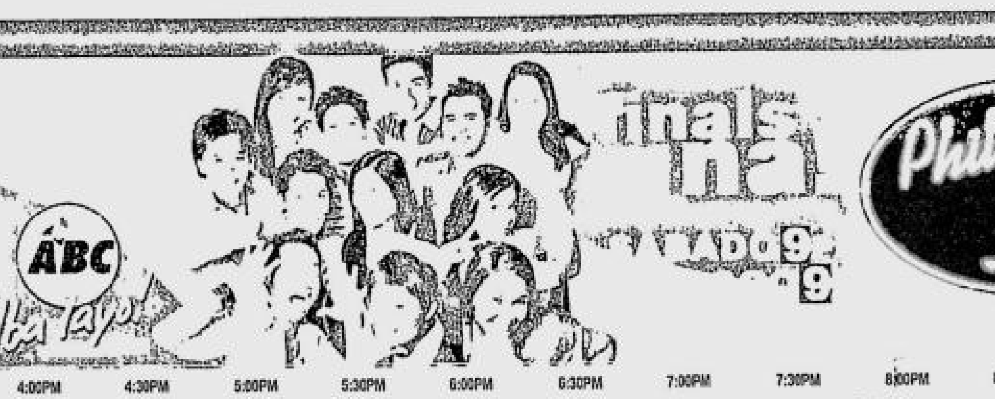
INQUIRER

TV GUIDE

Tuesday, October 10, 2006



Philippine Idol

ClickTheCity.com

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABC 5	Nickelodeon				Mon Cole Knight	Legend Of Shaolin Kung Fu	TNA Wrestling		Big News	Ultimate Guinness World Records		Todo Max		Philippine Idol	Sentro	ALI		Letty La Mas Fea [illegible]	
ABS-CBN 2		Kapamilya Cinema			Pasion de Amor	Yakitate! Japan	Yu-Gi-Oh GX	Pangako Sa 'Yo	TV Patrol World		Kapamilya Deal Or No Deal	Super Inggo	Bituing Walang Ningning	Crazy For You		Pinoy Dream Academy	Bandila	Correspondents	Mirada De Mujer
AXN		House (Season II)		Worst Case Scenario				Beastmaster		Max Exposure (Season I)						Las Vegas (Season 2)			
bTV				Sidelines: LA Hoops		NBA Inside Stuff	NBA Jam	NBA Greatest Game				2006 Champs League				2006 Champs League [illegible]			
Cartoon Network	My Little Pony	All New Popeye Show	Dexter's Laboratory	Tom & Jerry Show	Baby Looney Tunes	Winx Club	Xiaolin Showdown	Max Steel/ My Gym Partner's A Monkey	Robotboy/ Foster's Home For Imaginary Friends	Mirumo De Pon	Pokemon: The Johto Journey	The Justirisers	Shaman King	Courage The Cowardly Dog	The Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy	The Simpsons	Aqua Teen Hunger Force	Gundam Seed	Shaman King
Cinema One		Sinong Pipigil Sa [illegible]				Bahram Kahit Sandali				James Barako Ng Maynila				Lastikman				Acacia	
Cinemax	Kiss And Tell (2:45 PM)			White Hunter, Black Heart (4:15 PM)				Somebody Has To Shoot The Picture (6:10 PM)				The Chronicles Of Riddick				A Nightmare On Elm Street Part 2: Freddy's Revenge			The Stars Fell On Henrietta
CNN		Business International		World News	World Sport	Larry King Live		Business International	World Sport	World News Asia		World News	World Sport	World News Asia	World News Asia	Your World Today			
Crime/Suspense		Dominick Dunne's Power, Privilege & Justice		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Profiler		Forensic Files	Body Of Evidence	Law & Order		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		The Closer		E-Ring		Oz	
Discovery Channel				Rides		Ultimate Discovery		Perfect Disaster		Wild Discovery		Hour Asia		Ultimate Discovery		Perfect Disaster		Blueprint For Disaster	
Disney Channel	Mr. Bean, The Animated Series	Totally Spies	Art Attack/ Untalkative Bunny	Mickey Mouseworks	Lilo & Stitch	Emperor's New School	Totally Spies	Kim Possible	Mr. Bean, The Animated Series	That's So Raven	Wonderful World Of Disney			Wicked Science [illegible] Totally Spies	Phil Of The Future	Buzz on Maggie	Totally Spies/ Disney Family Movie	Wonderful World Of Disney	
ESPN		Watersports Programming Hot Water		NFL Yearbook	Cheerleading	X Games 11 Classic: Shaun White Yr In Review		NFL Football: Ravens @ Broncos						Sportscenter Asia	Major League Baseball Division Series				
ETC	Insider Weekend	Project Runway		Change of Heart	Elimidate	Blind Date	Fifth Wheel	Seinfeld	Ambush Makeover	The Tyra Banks Show		One Tree Hill 3		The OC Season 3		Entertainment Tonight	The Insider	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	
ETC 2nd Avenue		Starting Over		The Maury Povich Show		The Jerry Springer Show		Dr. Phil		NBC Nightly News	The Inside Edition	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		Wheel Of Fortune	Jeopardy	Skating With Celebrities		NBC Nightly News	The Inside Edition
EWTN	Super Saints	Chaplet Of Mercy/ Angelus	ABCatholic	Angel Force	Rosary With Mother Angelica	EWTN Gallery	Mirror Of The Soul	Lord, Have Mercy	Behold the Man: Spirituality for Men	The Journey Home Encore		Daily Mass		Holy Land Rosary/ Angelus	The Good Code: The Natural Law	Chaplet Of Divine Mercy	Octava Dies	Web Of Faith	
Fox News		On The Record With Greta Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor		Your World With Neil Cavuto		Fox & Friends						Fox News Live					
GMA 7	Agawin Mo Man Ang Lahat	Now and Forever (3:15 PM)	Ang Pantabago (3:45 PM)		Saiyuki	Dragonball Z	Jewel In The Palace	24 Oras		Captain Barbell (7:10 PM)		Atlantika		Bakekang (8:50 PM)	Love Story In Harvard	Bahay Mo Ba 'To			Saksi
Hallmark Channel				Judging Amy		Sue Thomas F.B. Eye		McLeod's Daughters		Strong Medicine		Just Cause		Judging Amy		Elizabeth I			
HBO				The Natural					Wag The Dog (6:20 PM)			U.S. Marshals (7:55 PM)				Six Feet Under: A Coat Of White Primer		Six Feet Under: [illegible] (10:55 PM)	
Hero TV	Tokyo Underground	Sunny Pig	Last Exile	Mirmo de Pon	Sugar: A Little Snow Fairy	Naruto	Inuyasha	Saiyuki Reload	Full Metal Panic	Yakitate! Japan	Mr. Ajikko	Transformers Armada	Last Exile	Fortune Quest	B-Daman Bakugaiden V	Beyblade G-Revolution	Cinderella Boy	Tokyo Underground	Yu-Gi-Oh GX
IBC 13		EZ Shop				Serbis On The Go	IBC Express Balita	Pangarap Kong Jackpot		EBC Earth Files		Japan Video Topics		Travel Philippines	Japan Video Topics	EBC Earth Files	IBC News Tonite	Home Shopping Network	
JackTV		Experience		Heat		X-Men Evolution	Justice League	Bottomline		Mad TV		Just For Laughs	Jamie Kennedy Experiment	My Name Is Earl	Always Sunny In Philadelphia	The Daily Show With Jon Stewart Whose Line Is It Anyway?	Comedy Central	The Late Show David Letterman	
Lifestyle Network	Design Remix	30 Minute Meals	Wolfgang Puck	Sweet Dreams	Smart Solutions	Sensible Chic	At Home With	Food 911	Boy Meets Grill	Intimate Portrait		E! News Weekend		Martha				Napa Style	[illegible]
MTV Philippines		Sessions Faspitch	VH1 Fabulous Life of Usher	VH1 Fabulous Life of Missy Elliot	Pimp My Ride	Cribs	MTV Hits			Get Spotted	5 Things About Faspitch	TRL		Pimp My Ride	Cribs	MTV Arena	Sessions Faspitch	VH1 Fabulous Life of Oprah	VH1 Fabulous Life Of Pam Anderson
MYX		Rock MYX	My MYX	Mellow MYX	Urban MYX	Take 5	MYX Versions	MYX Firsts	Star MYX	OPM MYX	Pop MYX	MYX Daily Top Ten		MYXellaneous	Radio MYX	MYX News	My MYX	MYX Backtrax	MYXlog
National Geographic		Nat Geographic Specials		Hidden Worlds		Predators At War		ShowReal Asia S3		Africa's Secret Seven		About Asia		Crash Scene Investigation		Hollywood Science		Hunter Hunted	
NBN		Teledyaryo Alas-Tres		Teledyaryo Sports Atbp.			Diyos Ko, Mahal Mo Ba Siya	Teledyaryo W/ [illegible] & Angelique Lazo		Tinig ng Bayan (Live)		Talakayan Sa Isyung Pulis		Teledyaryo Final Edition				Bantay OCW With Susan K	
Net 25	INC Chronicles (Filipino)	In Focus	Euromaxx	Ang Mga Nagsi-[illegible] Daan		Ang Tamang Daan		News Beat (Live)		OpenLine Live	Gabay Sa Kalusugan	Ang Mga Nagsi-[illegible] Daan		Ang Pagbubunyag		World Report	In Focus	DWTV Journal News	Euromaxx
Nickelodeon	Challenge/ Nick's Fright Fest	The Fairly Odd Parents	SpongeBob [illegible]	Naturally Sadie	Romeo	SpongeBob SquarePants	My Life As A Teenage Robot	Danny Phantom	The Adventures Of Jimmy Neutron	The Fairly Odd Parents	Drake & Josh/ Ed [illegible] Nick's Fright Fest	Unfabulous	SpongeBob SquarePants	The Fairly Odd Parents	All That	Romeo	As Told By Ginger	My Dad The Rock Star	
PBO			Alfredo Sebastian				Kanbas		Tunay Na Kaibigan, Walang Iwanan				Ang Kapitbahay				Sa Totoo Lang		
Qtv	Starry Starry Night	Shaman King	Battle B-Daman	B-Daman Bakugaiden	MMS (My Music Station)		Moms		Winter Sonata	Irene	Emperor Of The Sea	Takeshi's Castle		Extreme Makeover: Home Edition		News On Q	Sana'y Muling Makapiling		Irene
RPN 9	TV Shopping				Kapatid Show	RPN Aksyon News		Complete Savages	Jake In Progress	Project Runway		Australia's Next Top Model		Good Girls Don't	Sex & the City	Newswatch Now	Tuesday Night Treat		
SBN 21								Sony Music Video				Oras Ng Himala		Oras ng Katotohanan		Sony Music Video		Sony Music Video	
Solar Sports								Billiards: WC Pool						ITZ		Sportsdesk		Raceworld	
Star Movies			Siblings (3:45 PM)			City Slickers II: The Legend Of Curly's Gold				Manifest Destiny: [illegible] The Jacket (7:15 PM)				Ginger Snaps 2: Unleashed			Ginger Snaps Back: The Beginning		
Star World		The Bold & The Beautiful		General Hospital		Monk		The Simpsons	Malcolm In The Middle	Star News Asia	Seinfeld	One Tree Hill		Desperate Housewives		Kevin Hill		Seinfeld	One Tree H
Studio 23		Yu-Gi-Oh				Batman Beyond	Monkey Typhoon	Blog	Pinoy Dream Academy	Wazzup Wazzup	High School Reunion	Smallville (8:15 PM)		Gilmore Girls		News Central	Oprah (10:45PM)		MYXlog

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Killer toyed with Bishop Ramento, say probers

From page A1

intended to kill him and was even very proud of it," Fernandez said at a press conference at the Iglesia Filipina Independiente Cathedral in Manila. "He was playing with his victim."

The mission came out with its own version of the murder in an effort to counter the official police findings that dismissed the incident as a simple robbery.

The mission was composed of representatives from the human rights group Karapatan, Promotion of Church People's Response, Public Interest Law Center, Health Action for Human Rights and the Aglipayan Church.

But Senior Supt. Nicanor Bartolome rejected the mission's findings and said the Tarlac police "stand pat on the results of our investigation."

Lone assailant

Fernandez said Ramento could have been killed by a lone assailant, contrary to the Tarlac police's version that pinned the blame on alleged gang members Michael Viado, Michael Quitalig, Raymon Perez and Joel Villanueva.

He said the killer also probably used two different knives, as shown by the difference in angles and entry points in the victim's chest and back.

Fernandez said he suspected a bayonet was used to initially stab Ramento in the chest because the blade penetrated the sternum (breast bone) en route to the heart.

The mission criticized the investigation conducted by the Tarlac police.

Fernandez noted that the crime scene was not sealed off. Within two hours of the body's discovery, the city mayor, the barangay chair and a councilman were in it.

'Haphazard'

"The scene of the crime investigation was inefficient and haphazard," he said. "The crime scene was adulterated."

In a statement, Ramento's two children further rebutted the robbery angle, noting that the two items missing from his room—a DVD player and his ring—had disappeared on two different occasions.

Aldos and Ichey Ramento said the DVD player was reported missing two weeks before the ring was supposedly taken at the time of the murder.

"It's perplexing that the police recovered both of the items and presented them to media together," they said in the statement. "In the two weeks that had passed, it's also surprising that the so-called robbers had not yet disposed of the DVD when in fact they were supposedly notorious."

Jigs Clamor, the head of the fact-finding team, said the findings and circumstances strongly suggested a motive way beyond robbery.

"It seems that there's a script involved here," he told the INQUIRER.

Church leaders shocked

The murder drew expressions of sympathy from international church leaders.

"I want to express our condolences, sorrow and shock over the murder," Anders Wejryd, Uppsala archbishop of the Church of Sweden, wrote.

A similar note was sent by Jonas Johnson, a bishop emeritus in Sweden, who said that Ramento's "commitment to justice, his solidarity with the poor, and his faith in Christ made a deep impact on me."

The Most Rev. Andrew Hutchison, archbishop and primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, described Ramento's death as "tragic" in a separate letter.

RP not safe for critics

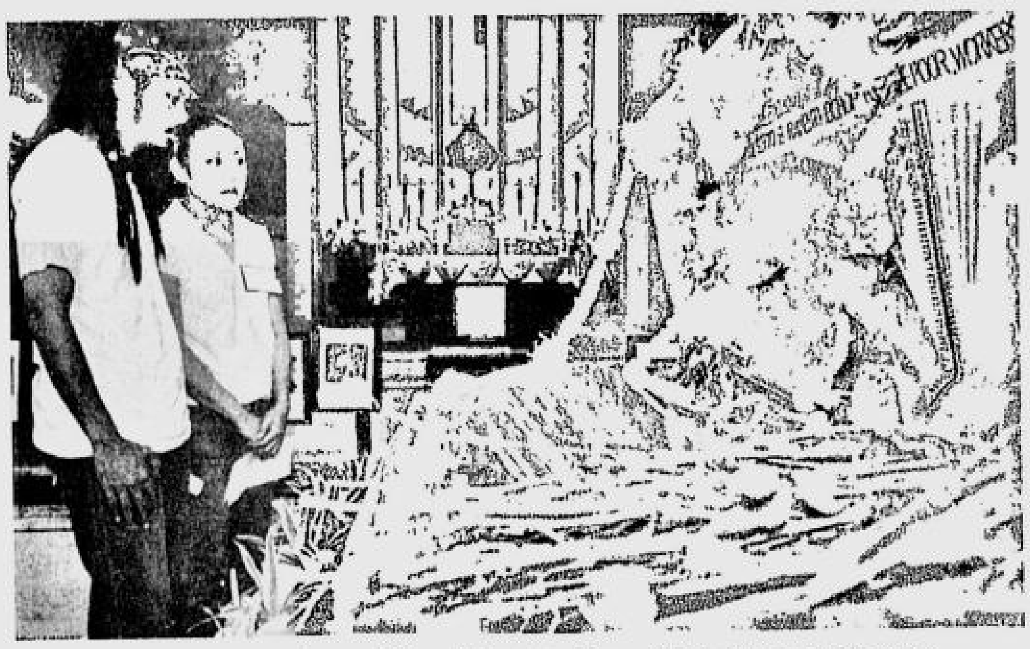
In Manila, Archbishop Angel Lagdameo, president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, said Ramento's killing was "saddening and shocking."

Lagdameo said the CBCP had already denounced the spate of extrajudicial killings of activists, church leaders, workers and journalists.

"What is alarming is that, so far, the actions that have been taken do not yet satisfy the demands of justice, especially for the victims and their relatives," he said.

"Will the case of Bishop Ramento be another reason for us to say that this country is no longer safe for those who announce the truth and denounce immorality?"

Activist priest Fr. Joe Dizon agreed with the police that Ramento was murdered by "thieves ... thieves of truth, of electoral votes, of power in government." *With reports from Norman Bordadora and Tonette Orejas, Inquirer Central Luzon*



BISHOP Alberto Ramento's son Aldo and daughter Ichey at their father's wake at the National Cathedral in Manila. RYAN LIM

IN THE KNOW

THE AGLIPAYAN CHURCH, officially the Iglesia Filipina Independiente (IFI) or the Philippine Independent Church, was established during a meeting of the liberal-nationalist Union Obrera Democratica on Aug. 3, 1902, that decided to break away from missionaries cooperating with the American colonial government.

Although Christian, the IFI rejects the spiritual authority of the Pope and emphasizes patriotism in its teachings.

Fr. Gregorio Aglipay was appointed first head of the church with the title of Obispo Maximo or Supreme Bishop, hence the name Aglipayan.

Rev. Alberto Ramento was the ninth Obispo Maximo of the IFI.

The National Statistics Office said IFI has 1.5 million members and is the fifth-largest religion in the country. Roman Catholics comprise 61.8 million of the Philippine population, Muslims 3.8 million, Evangelicals 2.1 million and Iglesia Ni Cristo 1.7 million. *Mel Lawrence de Guzman, Inquirer Research*

Another Aglipayan ...

From page A1

should not go unpunished."

Pimentel said he had instructed the police to exert all efforts to apprehend the culprits "and give justice, especially to a religious man."

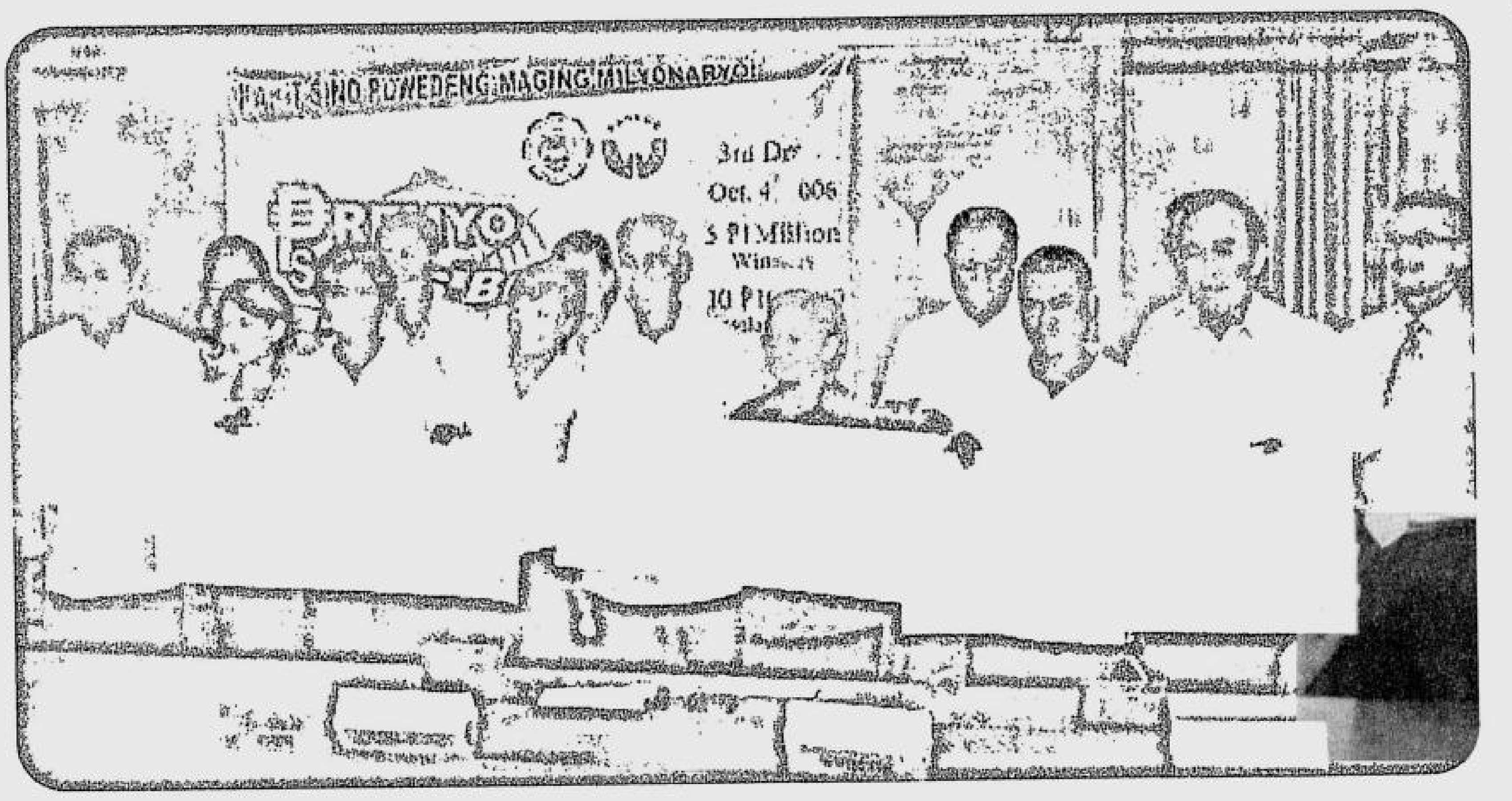
Antonio Azarcon, a lawyer for the human rights group Karapatan, described the victim as a "man of God who had been active in helping the poor and fighting injustice." *With a report from AP*

₱REMYO SA RESIBO

BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE 1904 PHILIPPINES

PAGCOR

Congratulations to the 3rd Monthly draw winners!



Finance Secretary Margarito Teves(center) awarded the P1 Million and P100,000 checks to 10 of 15 winners of the PSR October 4 draw, at the ceremonies held at the Department of Finance yesterday October 9, 2006. The lucky P1 Million winners, all holding big checks, were Ms. Laura Manrique from Pasig City, Ms. Fe Lopez from Gen Trias, Cavite and Mr. Rolando Herreria from Agoo La Union. The P100,000 consolation prize winners were Maria Delfa Mayol from Ormoc City, Dra. Angelina Cando from Baguio City, Danilo Abergas from Kalookan City, Raul Ploquinto from Ligayen Pangasinan, Concepcion Diaz From Lahug Cebu, Rodora Opilas from Tayug, Pangasinan and Antonio Arellano from Quezon City. Assisting in the awarding ceremonies are Mr. Alfredo Misajo, BIR Regional Director of Manila (extreme left) and Mr. Dennis Valdes, President of Philweb Corp (extreme right).

The next **Premyo Sa Resibo** draw will be on **November 3, 2006**, where another five P1 million **prizes** are at stake. For this draw, Official Receipts from **Sept. 1 to Nov. 2, 2006** are qualified.

Please watch "Araw-araw Premyo sa Resibo" TV game show everyday on **ABC 5 at 11pm**

Premyo Sa Resibo Instructions :

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Across the NATION

Text us your feedback: inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) *Assistant Editor* **Tony Bergonia**

Gov't vows relentless hunt for NPAs

THE GOVERNMENT VOWED YESTERDAY TO INtensify counterinsurgency operations after communist guerrillas seriously damaged the construction site of an international airport in a daring weekend raid.

About 30 New People's Army rebels, disguised as police, disarmed guards and destroyed a computerized cement-making facility and a standby power generator Sunday using homemade bombs and kerosene, police said.

South Korean engineers and Filipino workers who live at the site were unharmed, Silay town police chief Superintendent Celestino Guara said.

"We condemn this act of terrorism, which is not only a direct assault on the people whose jobs are at stake in the construction of the airport, but also on our development vision designed to alleviate poverty," presidential spokesman Ignacio Bunye said.

He said such acts justified a relentless drive against the rebels as well as their inclusion on international lists of terrorist organizations.

"The government will not be deterred by these barbarous acts," he said in a statement. "It will continue to press on with measures to secure vital government projects in the country and further intensify its counterterrorism campaign in all fronts."

Army troops and police on pursued the attackers in Silay, a sugarcane-producing region 470 km southeast of Manila.

The airport, funded by the Japanese government, was scheduled for opening early next year. The attack damaged equipment worth P25 million, Guara said.

He said the motive could be linked to guerrilla efforts to extort money from a construction company.

The military estimates that the rebels have about 7,200 fighters nationwide. In 2004, they withdrew from Norwegian-brokered peace talks on ending 37 years of insurgency, accusing the government of not making efforts to remove them from US and European terrorist lists.

Authorities sent more men to tighten security at other airports and other government projects in the Visayas, a day after the guerrillas attacked the Silay City airport.

Chief Supt. Geary Barias, Western Visayas police regional commander, said police and soldiers will secure the airport project site and surrounding areas.

Barias said they are tightening security at the airport being built in Iloilo, which is near the PNP headquarters.

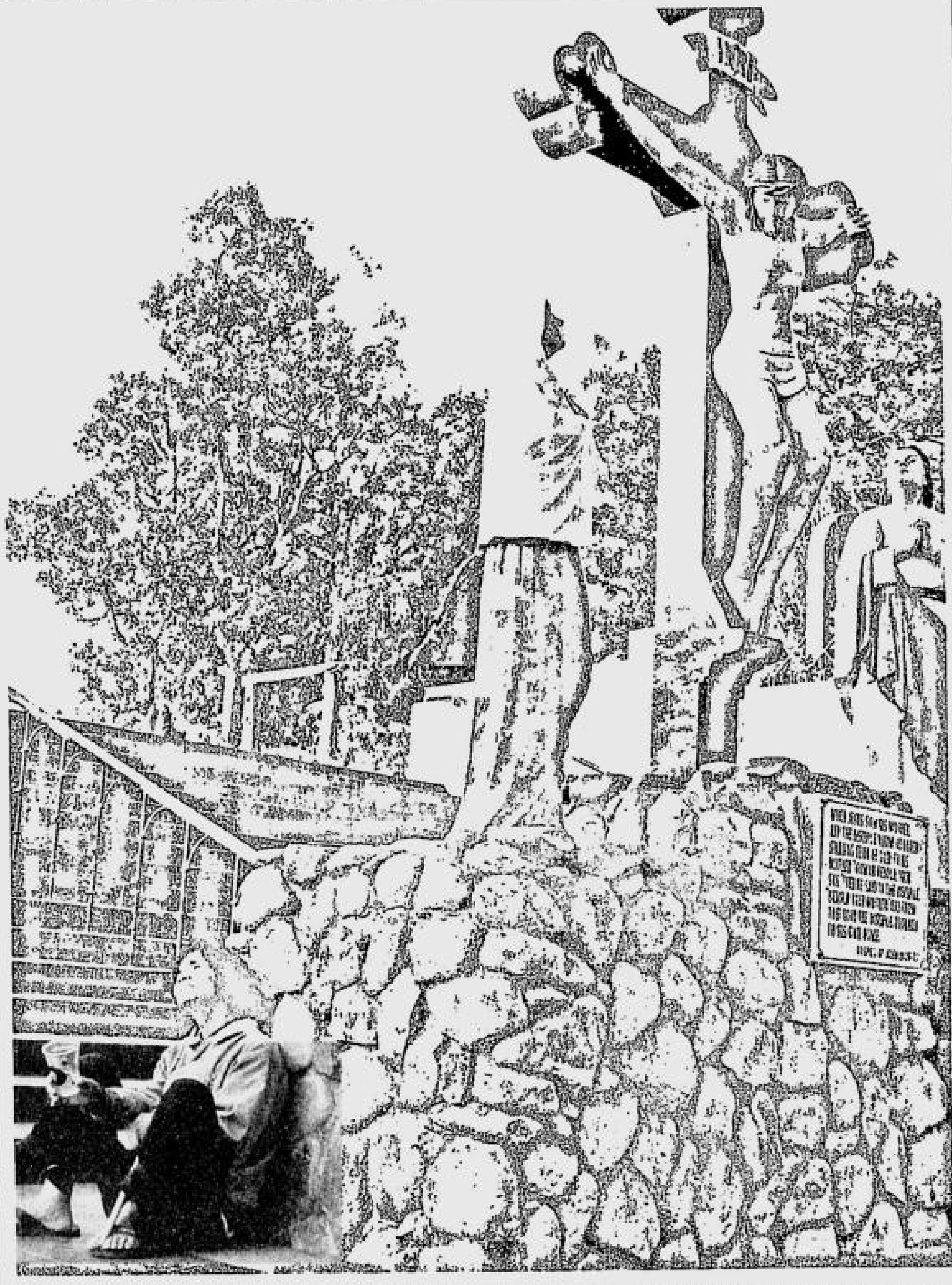
The construction work on the P4.3-billion Silay airport project slowed yesterday when police asked about 1,000 of the 1,400 workers to stay away to allow law enforcers to scour the area for explosive devices that may have been left by the guerrillas.

The project is on a 187-hectare property in Barangay Bagtic, Silay City, 14.4 kilometers north of Bacolod City.

Assistant Transportation Secretary Ricardo Tan said work at the airport, which is scheduled for completion in the second quarter of next year, is expected to normalize today.

Maj. Lyndon Sollesta, spokesperson of the Army's 3rd Infantry Division (3ID), said the attack could be part of a rebel plan to "sabotage flagship projects to create the impression of government inadequacy in protecting its projects and as a rebel show of force."

Police put up tighter security around the Mactan Cebu International Airport as a precaution, authorities said. *AP with reports from Carla Gomez, Nestor Burgos Jr., Felipe Celino and Jhunnex Napallacan, Inquirer Visayas*



MERCY SPOT

VINCENT CABREZA/INQUIRER NORTHERN LUZON

Sundays bring out tourists and residents to the Baguio Cathedral, but many seem oblivious to this blind man seated beside religious icons on the path leading to the church. The beggar is a regular Sunday fixture at the church grounds.

Military sends 120 Scout Rangers to pursue Silay attackers

By Alcuin Papa

THE MILITARY HAS LET LOOSE an entire company from the elite Scout Rangers to run after communist rebels who attacked the construction site of a major airport in Silay City in Negros Occidental.

In a press conference yesterday, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) spokesman Lt. Col. Bartolome Bacarro said 120 members of the Third Scout Ranger Company have been designated to "track down" the rebels, estimated to be around 30.

"After the attack, ground commanders in the area have ordered a realignment of forces. The 3rd Scout Ranger Company has been dispatched to track down the rebels," Bacarro said.

In addition to the Scout Rangers, Bacarro said troops from the Philippine Army's 11th and 61st Infantry Battalions were also deployed to complement the security of the Silay City airport. This would complement the First and Second Provincial Mobile Group of the Philippine National Police (PNP).

He also said other military units near the area have been alerted to watch out for possible attacks by members of the New People's Army (NPA). Bacarro said this was part of their "standard operating procedures."

Bacarro denied the attack was a result of "failure of intelligence" by police and military intelligence units since the NPA's strategy was to conduct "lightning attacks" where NPA fighters approach a target from different directions.

"Sometimes, one battalion will cover three provinces. These are 500 personnel. If you're covering a big area, you can't spread your forces too thinly," he said.

Bacarro added that they would look into "possible lapses" in security procedures by military personnel assigned to the area as soon as they receive the "after-operations report" on the attack.

The PNP is also sending a contingent from its own elite unit, the Special Action Force (SAF), in the pursuit operations against the rebels who attacked the airport.

PNP spokesman Senior Supt. Samuel Pagdilao Jr. said the SAF troops will join elements of the 6th Regional Mobile Group based in Western Visayas.

"This latest series of hostilities by the NPA describe their desperation in generating more funds for the movement, purposely to finance the activities of their legal front organizations and to support the lavish lifestyles of their leaders," Pagdilao said.

Last June, Malacañang gave P1 billion to the PNP and the AFP to wipe out the 37-year-old communist insurgency. Ms Arroyo had ordered police and military to stop the NPA's extortion activities which have been victimizing foreign and local businesses.

Laguna town sees dip in duck, chicken production

VICTORIA, LAGUNA—KNOWN for its duck and chicken industry, this town is experiencing a decline in its production of chicken and duck eggs.

A shortage of ducks and chickens is possible and expected to last for one to three months, an agriculturist based in the municipality said.

Antonio Bayunggan, town agriculturist, reported losses to be estimated to be P2 million in the duck industry.

He said nearly all the town's 60 duck farms were damaged by Typhoon "Milenyo."

"As a result, the production of duck eggs has declined by 90 percent," Baby Ruth Rassmussen, a duck raiser, told the INQUIRER in a mobile phone interview.

Stress

She said the ducks could not produce eggs because of the stress caused by the typhoon.

"It takes one month for recovery," she said.

"Our poultry was also struck by the typhoon. More than 50 percent of the chickens here were lost and looted as most chicken houses had collapsed," Bayunggan said.

He agreed with what the Department of Agriculture recently said about a chicken shortage.

"There will be a chicken shortage, yet for a short period only," the agriculturist said.

He said most growers would devote their one to three months in rebuilding chicken houses.

Emil Po, a chicken grower who owns farms in Sta. Cruz and Victoria, Laguna, said in a phone interview that he almost lost P10 million in his two farms.

Reduced

He said the number of chickens in just one farm was reduced from 40,000 to 6,000.

"We will stop raising chicken for about three months to rebuild the chicken houses and recuperate from the damage of the typhoon," Po said.

He said they were afraid that about 30 workers in his farm would lose their jobs for three months so they were studying ways to normalize business as swiftly as possible.

The five-day Itik Festival this November will only be a two-day activity as a consequence of the damage in the duck industry, said Cecille Evio, town councilor. *Niña Catherine Calleja, Inquirer Southern Luzon*

A STUDENT volunteer of the University Student Council of UP Los Baños shovels off mud brought by Typhoon Milenyo to clear the pathway of the Eduardo Barretto Elementary School in Barangay Pansol, Calamba. Volunteers of the Serve the People Corps (STPC), including members of Bayan Muna, Kabataan Party, and students of the University of the Philippines-Los Baños and Philippine Women's University-Calamba, lent a hand to the school last Oct. 6. Still collecting relief goods, the STPC used manpower to extend help in the form of a clean-up drive.

NIÑA CATHERINE CALLEJA/INQUIRER SOUTHERN LUZON

Gov won't act on meddling of pal in city affairs

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—PAMpanga Gov. Mark Lapid on Monday declined to reprimand or confront a man he regarded as a friend, who has been criticized for meddling in the affairs of the provincial board.

Lapid, 26, said he has no responsibility over the actions of Jun Castro because Castro was a "private individual" not employed by the provincial government.

While Lapid denied that Castro was his executive assistant, capitol employees said Castro performed official functions like facilitating meetings and reviewing contracts. The man, who is just in his '30s, has started to be seen with Lapid before the 2004 elections.

In a copy of minutes of the board's regular session on Oct. 2, Board Member Johnny Quiambao, chair of the justice committee, informed his colleagues that Castro called him by phone and berated him for looking into the case of suspended Barangay Captain Javier Taruc of Madapdap in Mabalacat town.

Meddling

"O board, o ba't pati ing kang Taruc, pakialaman mu? (Board Member, why did you have to meddle in Taruc case?)" Quiambao quoted Castro as saying.

Quiambao said Castro's call made him sleepless for almost two weeks.

Taruc's case was one of three administrative cases being reviewed by the committee.

Castro, reached by phone on Monday, begged off from giving his side, saying he had been sick with fever since last Thursday. He was not seen at the provincial capitol on Monday, an absence that surprised some employees.

Of the incident, Lapid said: "The issue is between JQ (Quiambao) and him (Castro)."

But the governor said Castro has "no authority" to intrude into the work of board.

The board's presiding officer, Vice Gov. Joseller Guiao, wrote the governor that Castro's action was an "affront to the entire legislative body, being questioned as to its jurisdiction and functions."

No appearance

The board has asked Castro to appear in a session and explain his action. He has not officially replied to the request.

Two capitol officials said the governor should severe his ties with Castro because he reportedly went out of bounds in at least two instances.

In the first instance, Castro called an official of the Manila North Tollways Corp. when his transponder did not have enough cash for the toll and was not allowed to pass through, the officials said.

In the second, Castro came to the rescue of Maynard, Lapid's younger brother, when Maynard was surrounded by a mob protesting his alleged drag racing in Mabalacat, they said.

Castro reportedly fired his gun to shoo the mob away and protect Maynard from being lynched.

A Commission on Audit report indicated that Castro's role went beyond being a friend to Lapid.

The report, citing the affidavit of a witness, said that Castro bagged contracts through the MMW Trading.

The firm cornered 13 filling and re-gravelling projects under the 20 percent development fund between 2002 and 2004, or when Lapid's father, now Sen. Manuel "Lito" Lapid, was governor.

The firm, according to the COA report, obtained 37 contracts for medical supplies worth P153.4 million also for the same period.

The governor said he did not have personal knowledge of these contracts since these were not signed during his term.

Lulu Alingcastre, chief of the general services office, told the INQUIRER that MMW Trading was "not in the list of qualified (contractors or suppliers)." It is also not listed in the name of Castro, she said. *Tonette Orejas, Inquirer Central Luzon*

STAIN

HA. ILLA/INQUIRER SA

A teenager inspects a row of bamboo poles stained with bunker fuel from Petron that spilled from the tanker MT Solar I in Guimaras province. The destruction brought by the spill has disrupted the lives of 26,000 Guimaras residents dependent on fishing for their livelihood.

Gov't wants more time to revive peace talks

COTABATO CITY—GOVERNMENT negotiators have asked for two more weeks to present a new proposal to the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) to save the peace talks.

Recent negotiations on territory, which documents on the peace talks describe as issues of ancestral domain, bogged down in Malaysia.

Because of that, the MILF warned talks might collapse and would end up in war if the issue on ancestral domain would remain unresolved.

"They requested for two more weeks to come up with new proposal to us on the issue of territory. That's the only way for the peace talks to move forward," MILF chief negotiator Mohaqher Iqbal told the INQUIRER on Sunday.

"They need more time. That's the only reason they cited to us in their formal communiqué. They are expected to present their proposal on Oct. 30," he added.

Government negotiators should have presented fresh proposals on Sept. 30 to revive peace talks but they asked for two weeks for time to consult political, economic, religious and civic leaders over the rebel group's demand to widen the existing autonomous region without a plebiscite.

The so-called ancestral domains will be placed under the Bangsamoro Juridical Entity (BJE), the probable name of the governing body of the new Moro homeland. It was still not clear how much autonomy the BJE will have.

The government offered 613 villages scattered all over Mindanao to an existing Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao that covers the provinces of Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur, Sulu, Basilan, Tawi-Tawi and Marawi City. But the MILF wants an increase in the number of villages.

Despite the impasse, the head of International Monitoring Team (IMT) said peace in Mindanao will certainly come, saying the recent impasse on territory aspects of ancestral domain in the ongoing peace talks will be resolved soon.

"There will be no categorical answer on the exact time but what's most important is that we are all working together towards that goal," IMT chief Maj. Gen Dato' Md Ismael bin Ahmad Khan said in statement.

"The time for a long lasting peace in Mindanao will certainly come as long as we all fulfill in good faith our obligations to the peace talks and the entire processes and keep in mind that war has never been good to humanity," he added.

The IMT, which is led by Malaysia, is a body that oversees an existing ceasefire agreement between the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the MILF in 2001. *Jeoffrey Maitem, Inquirer Mindanao*

MORO ISLAMIC Liberation Front guerrillas guard the road leading to Camp Darapanan, their main lair in Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao. The MILF warns it was prepared to return to war should negotiations on territory fail.

JEOFFREY MAITEM/INQUIRER MINDANAO

ROUNDUP

Bus robbers kill sergeant

LUCENA CITY—An Army sergeant died while trying to stop a robbery in a bus in Gumaca, Quezon, on Thursday, police said. The victim, TSgt. Edelito Lopez, 42, of the Light Armor Brigade based in Camp Nakar here was among the passengers of the AB Liner Bus when two unidentified men announced a robbery along the Maharlika Highway in Barangay Buensuceso, Gumaca. Lopez drew his service firearm but was stabbed dead by one of the robbers during the scuffle. The soldier died at the San Diego de Alcala Hospital

Dellin T. Mallari Jr., Inquirer Southern Luzon

Bomb threat grips mall

LEGAZPI CITY—Tension gripped shoppers at LCC here after a security guard reported finding a military bag at the Peñaranda Street entrance of the mall at 11 a.m. on Friday. Supt. Narciso Guarin, city police chief, said members of the Explosives and Ordnance Detection checked the bag but found only shirts and shoes. Guarin said he was thankful that there was really no bomb and hoped the incident would not happen again so as not to create panic among mall goers.

Niño Jesus Orbeta, Inquirer Southern Luzon

Court backs expulsion move

ROXAS CITY—A regional trial court dismissed a petition for prohibition filed by an ousted member of a municipal council for lack of merit and factual basis. Judge Daniel Antonio Gerardo Amular of RTC Branch 21 in Mambusao said the Sigma municipal court was authorized by Section 50 of the Local Government Code to adopt its "Internal Rules of Procedures" and that the penalty of expulsion is commensurate to the unauthorized absences of the petitioner, Christopher Andaya, barangay chair of Poblacion Sur, Sigma and ex-officio member of the council since 2002. In his decision dated Sept 8, Amular said the logical option of Andaya was to ask the council to reconsider or recall his expulsion.

Felipe V. Celino, Inquirer Visayas

Cattle rustlers killed

CABANATUAN CITY—Three suspected cattle rustlers were killed in separate gunfights with policemen here on Saturday. Supt. Ferdinand Vero, chief of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) in Nueva Ecija, said policemen tracked down the suspects while delivering carabao meat to the public market at 2:30 a.m. Vero said the group's leader, Alfredo Joaquin, 33, refused to surrender and fired at the policemen. His companions, Norvin Capulong, 22, and Julius Castro, 25, escaped aboard a motorcycle but policemen caught up with them. Capulong and Castro were killed after trading shots with their pursuers. Vero said the group had victimized farmers in Nueva Ecija, Bulacan and Pangasinan.

Anselmo Roque, Inquirer Central Luzon

Girl, 6, stabbed dead

CANDON CITY—A six-year-old girl here was stabbed and killed by her family's neighbor in Barangay Calungbuyan last week. Police and radio reports said Rose May Gabuat died instantly after she was stabbed 11 times by Nelson Valdez, 33, at around 10 p.m. on Oct. 5. Gabuat's father, Renato, told radio station dzTP that Valdez barged into their house and suddenly grabbed his daughter who was sleeping at that time. He said Valdez took the girl to a nearby farm where he stabbed her using a pitchfork. He said Valdez could have been looking for him as the former suspected him of stealing his camera.

Leoncio Balbin Jr., Inquirer Northern Luzon

Farmers meet with DAR

MORE than 300 farmers met with officials of the Department of Agrarian Reform in Dingras, Ilocos Norte recently. The meeting was called to enhance community participation in the planning of DAR projects for the community. One of the programs outlined in the meeting was the Dingras Rural Enterprise and Agribusiness Modernization (Dream). Proponents of Dream, in a press statement, said it would help the farmers increase their productivity. Dingras is popularly known as the rice granary of the Ilocos region.

P193-M water project ready

SOME 100,000 residents in a city and two municipalities of Ilocos Sur will now benefit from safe and potable water as the Candon City Water District was prepared to operate its P193 million water supply system project funded jointly by the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) and Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), LWUA Administrator and Acting Board Chairman Lorenzo H. Jamora yesterday announced. In a statement, Jamora said the system of Candon City Water District is already 95 percent complete and will be operational soon to service residents of Candon City and the municipalities of Salcedo and Galimuyod. The LWUA chief added that the Candon City Water District Project was prioritized by LWUA upon the request and initiative of House Deputy Speaker Eric Singson. Edgardo de Mayo, LWUA water district development department head, said the new Candon City water project includes 36.7 km of pipelines.

Coal mine explosion kills 1, injures 3 in Cebu

By Jhunnex Napallacan
Inquirer Visayas

CEBU CITY—A MINER DIED AND THREE others were injured in a coal mine explosion in a mountain barangay of Balaas, Argao, 67 km south of Cebu City.

Authorities identified the fatality as Alfredo Behasa of Manlapay, Dalaguete.

Argao Mayor Wilfredo Caminero said Behasa could have died due to suffocation but he suffered burns in the back and legs as a result of the explosion.

The injured victims were Romulo Ortega, 42, foreman; Roberto Debolosas, 21; and Andres Balongcas. Ortega and Debolosas suffered burns on 75 percent of their bodies. They were brought to the Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center for treatment, the mayor said.

Balongcas, who suffered minor burns in the arms and legs, was brought to the Argao District Hospital.

Balongcas, interviewed over a radio station here, said the gas explosion occurred past 8 a.m. when they where near the blower located over 50 meters inside the tunnel.

Caminero said personnel from the Department of Energy were still checking what caused the explosion. The coal mine is operated by company called Adlawon Resources, the mayor said.

The government has opened up thousands of hectares of mineral-rich areas in the country to foreign investors, a move that has met protests from various sectors.

Officials estimate the amount of extractable minerals to billions of dollars, income that they said could help uplift the country's economy.

VP guest at NHA 31st year ceremony

VICE PRESIDENT Noli de Castro will be the keynote speaker and guest of honor in the 31st anniversary celebration of the National Housing Authority (NHA) on Oct. 16, at the NHA office on Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City.

During the anniversary, the NHA would open a public assistance desk and a photo exhibit of the Rail Linkage Program covering the North Luzon and South Luzon railway projects.

In a statement, the NHA said the anniversary's theme was "The Power to Build."

It said it has gone a long way in building homes, reaching as far north as Batanes and as far south as Sulu.

De Castro, also chair of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC), will initialize the NHA Ready Action Line (RAL) software where queries from the public on its housing programs and those seeking housing assistance will be addressed through the Internet.

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By Abigail L. Ho

GOOD NEWS: MOTORISTS CAN EXPECT 50-centavo-a-liter fuel price reductions almost every week up to the end of the year as world oil prices continue to soften, according to a consumer advocate.

In a briefing yesterday, Consumer and Oil Price Watch chair Raul Concepcion said gasoline, diesel and kerosene prices would continue to go down in the weeks leading up to 2007.

The price cuts these past weeks, he said, were good indications that local oil firms now had some room to reduce prices, following months of under-recoveries and even losses.

He also expressed optimism that international oil prices would drop to as low as $40 a barrel in the coming months.

For the seventh straight week last week, oil firms slashed prices of gasoline, diesel and kerosene by 50 centavos a liter.

According to data from the Department of Energy, the regional benchmark Dubai crude plunged to an October average of $56.85 a barrel from $59.82 a barrel last month.

The price of unleaded gasoline based on the Mean of Platts Singapore (MOPS) benchmark for refined petroleum products dropped to $62.49 a barrel in the first six days of the month from the September average of $65.86 a barrel.

MOPS-based diesel went down in the first week of October to an average of $71.91 a barrel from $76.95 a barrel last month.

In an earlier interview, DOE oil industry management bureau director Zenaida Monsada said motorists could expect gasoline prices to go down by as much as P2 a liter this month, with the reductions expected to be implemented on a staggered basis.

Diesel prices, however, would not go down as much, as the tariff on crude and finished products had been restored to the mandated 3 percent from the reduced level of 2 percent, she said.

Oil firms used tariff savings from gasoline to partially subsidize the prices of their socially sensitive diesel products.

Last week's rollback brought premium unleaded gasoline prices to between P38.24 and P40.50 a liter; diesel to between P32.77 and P38 a liter; and kerosene to between P36.19 and P41 a liter, inclusive of the 12-percent value-added tax.

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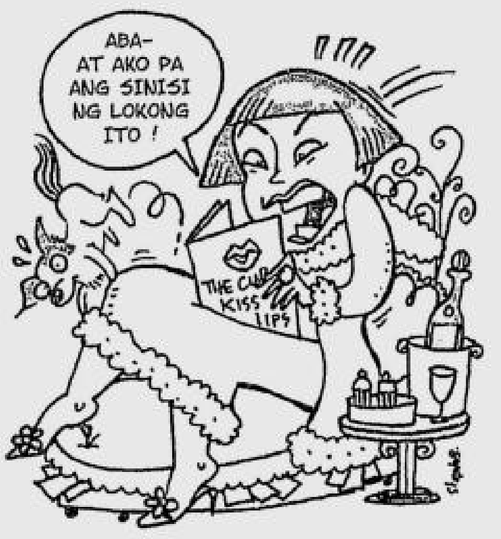
Gov't lawyers ready to rest case vs Magdalo rebels

By Tarra V. Quismundo

AFTER THREE YEARS, THE PROSECUTION in the case against rebel soldiers who took over a posh Makati City hotel is ready to rest its case.

State prosecutors said they are set to wrap up their case within the week against the 31 rebel soldiers detained for their alleged role in the July 27, 2003 takeover of the Oakwood Premier apartment-hotel. The takeover was reportedly part of a coup d' etat plot against the government.

The Oakwood mutineers, calling themselves the "Magdalo" group, had seized the hotel in the center of the country's financial district, rigged it with explosives, and called for the resignation of armed forces top brass as well as President Macapagal-Arroyo. The mutineers, however, gave up after an 18-hour standoff.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THE CURSED KISS LIPS

Jailed Chinese banker who fled to RP blames lover

BEIJING—A CHINESE BANK EXECUTIVE serving a 12-year term for corruption has penned a kiss-and-tell book behind bars in an attempt to help authorities catch his fugitive mistress.

Huang Shishan, 42, a former deputy director of a commercial bank in Zhuzhou in China's central Hunan province, was jailed for embezzling over 600 million yuan (about $75 million) of customers' deposits, the China Daily said.

The paper did not say when Huang was sentenced.

His mistress, Wang Xiangni, was still being sought after having abandoned Huang in the Philippines in 2004 and absconding "with a large amount of cash" after the two fled China, the official paper said.

Huang said he hoped his book, "Hongchun Zhouwen"—literally meaning "The Cursed Kiss of Rosy Lips"—would be translated into English to help Interpol track Wang, who is portrayed in the book as mastermind of the bank scam, the paper said.

Wang, a public relations manager at a local fertilizer plant on the verge of bankruptcy and a part-time nightclub dancer, seduced Huang in 1995 to get loans for the plant, according to the account reported in the paper.

The book describes how Huang gradually fell for Wang, and how she "enticed him to embezzle public cash for their personal pleasure," the paper said.

Wang, said to have as much as $758,000 in stolen money, came up with a scam to lure depositors with high interest rates and helped Huang to cover up his crime six times, according to the book.

After the scam was exposed, the two fled to the Philippines where Wang had a distant relative, but Wang then fled to Malaysia, leaving Huang penniless, the paper said.

Wang, forced to work "carrying heavy loads on a wharf" in the Philippines, broke his arm and eventually gave himself up to local police, the paper said. *Reuters*

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Blood donors needed

JOURNALIST Manolo "Noli" Jara is in urgent need of Rh negative Type B blood for a surgical procedure that has to be done immediately. Those who want to donate blood can call Jara's room at the E. Rodriguez Medical Center in Marikina City. The telephone numbers are 9331405, 9337078 and 9337079.

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Oversized ads first to go

By Christine O. Avendaño, Leila B. Salaverria, Jocelyn R. Uy and Gil C. Cabacungan

AS PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO AND other officials watched yesterday, authorities used heavy equipment to tear down two billboards that had been put up alongside the tracks of the Light Rail Transit Line 1 rail system, near the corner of Taft Avenue and Edsa in Pasay City.

A total of 42 illegal billboards in Metro Manila have been torn down so far, with 18 others still being dismantled.

The Department of Public Works and Highways—which is in charge of "Oplan Baklas Billboard"—said that there were 2,161 billboards scattered around the metropolis, with over 1,000 in Quezon City alone.

It was not immediately known, however, how many of these billboards would be taken down.

The DPWH said it would begin dismantling billboards on Edsa today, targeting oversized ads, those found along the Metro Rail Transit 3 line or are found to be encroaching on the road right-of-way.

Secretary Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. said they would also prioritize those found on government property.

"The government must set the example, that's why we will prioritize the dismantling of all billboards situated along government lots and others structures," he added.

Ebdane reiterated that authorities intended to clear Metro Manila of illegal billboards in two months' time.

"At the rate we are going, which include inspecting (the billboards), we can do it in two months," the public works secretary said.

Apart from Ebdane, Metropolitan Manila Development Authority Chair Bayani Fernando was also present during the clearing operations conducted by both the DPWH and the MMDA.

President Arroyo had earlier issued Administrative Order 160 which directed the DPWH to determine which billboards "pose imminent danger to life, health, safety and property of the general public and to abate and dismantle the same."

She issued the order after Typhoon "Milenyo" toppled many billboards in the metropolis on Sept. 28, leaving a man dead, injuring many others and damaging millions of pesos worth of property.

In Muntinlupa City, over 50 towering steel

DPWH/A18

Utilities to be restored thro[illegible]tro

Utilities (ele[illegible] communi[illegible] restored [illegible] Filipinos [illegible] of 4 [illegible] hous[illegible] acce[illegible] and [illegible] netwo[illegible]

Electricity

Meralco spok[illegible] transformers, [illegible] being repaired [illegible] should-[illegible] interru[illegible]

Bicol, o[illegible] around 60 percent [illegible] population of 4.2 [illegible] power, can now [illegible] back on by 4 pm, accor[illegible] Office of Civil Defense [illegible]

Restoration faster

Meralco will be coordinating closely [illegible] the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority to ensure smooth traffic flow in areas where fallen trees, electric posts, and billboards pose as hazards.

Meralco also ensures that all Metro Manila railway systems -- Light Rail Transit (LRT) lines 1 and 2 and the EDSA Metro Rail Transit 3 (MRT) -- should be back in full operation.

As of 1 p.m. yesterday, 76 of 79 Meralco transmission lines were back in operation. "The President wants the daily business of our people back to normalcy soonest," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said.

[illegible] megawatts [illegible]

The state firm will provide additional power to most of Meralco's Cavite franchise area with the energization of the Dasmariñas-Lakeview, Dasmariñas-Tagaytay and Dasmariñas-Ternate lines.

Power supply

Electricity was restored in Naga City in Camarines Sur province on Saturday, following the energization of the [illegible] the Tiwi [illegible] National [illegible]'s Naga [illegible]aga and [illegible] should [illegible]ls said. [illegible], where [illegible]es need [illegible]n could [illegible]

[illegible]terday [illegible]ng its [illegible]ration [illegible]water.

[illegible]ness of [illegible]," Press [illegible]

[illegible]ing but [illegible] cope with [illegible]," Bunye [illegible]

[illegible]apagal-Arroyo [illegible] public participation [illegible] devastated areas."

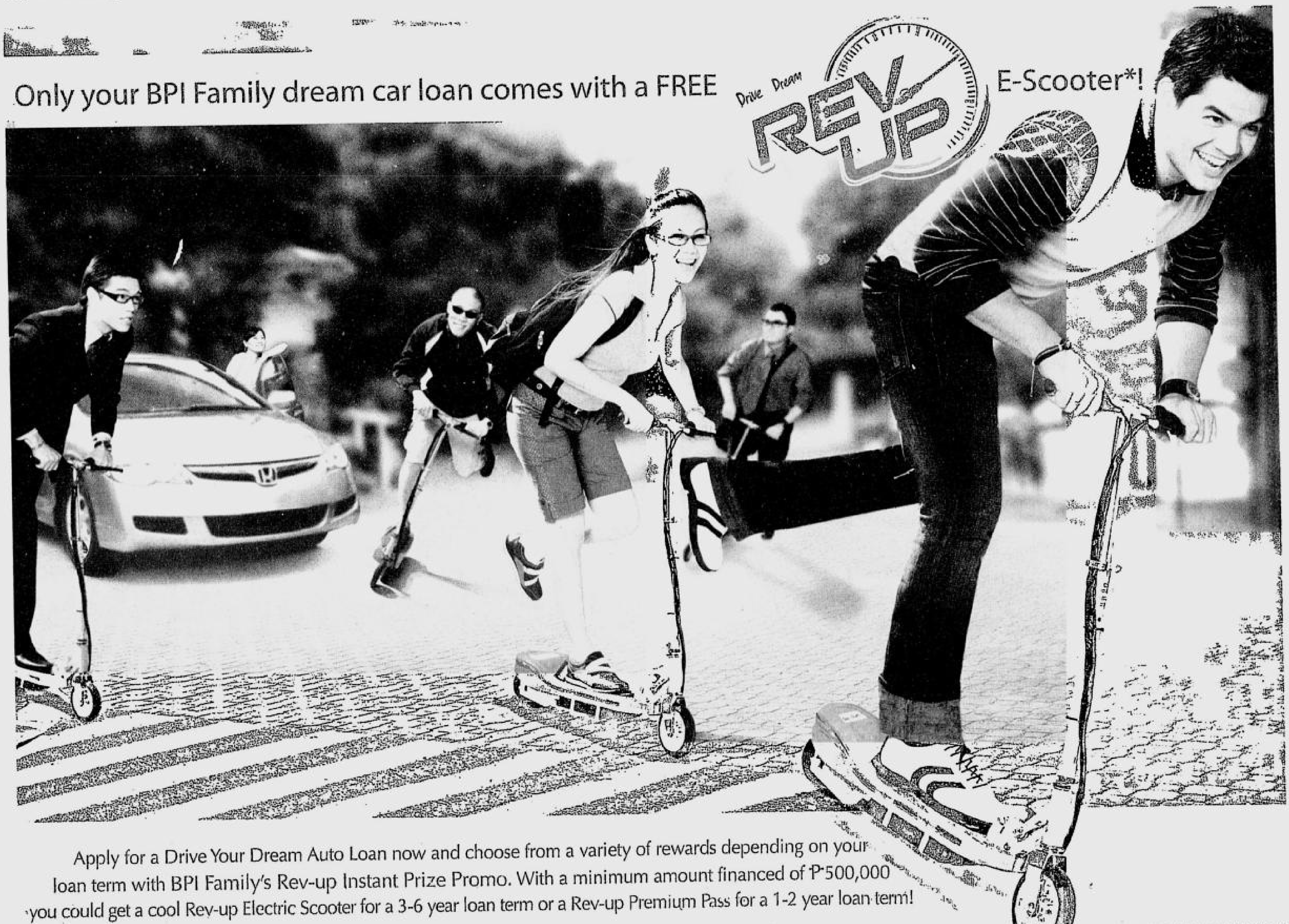
[illegible], with the help of [illegible] units and the private [illegible] continuing relief efforts in Bicol [illegible]abarzon.

"We assure the beleaguered families and communities that the national government will stand beside them until they can get back on their feet," Bunye said.

Communications

Meralco has restored power in all 124 of its circuits in the northern area (from Malabon to Balintawak in Quezon City), 319 of the 386 circuits in the central area (from Balintawak to Alabang), and 100 of the 150 circuits in the southern area (from Alabang to Batangas and Quezon).

MYGLOBE
Nagbabagang balita, ora mismo.
Text NEWS to 2222 for FREE
ang lakas mo sa Globe



Only your BPI Family dream car loan comes with a FREE Drive Dream REV UP E-Scooter*!

Apply for a Drive Your Dream Auto Loan now and choose from a variety of rewards depending on your loan term with BPI Family's Rev-up Instant Prize Promo. With a minimum amount financed of ₱500,000 you could get a cool Rev-up Electric Scooter for a 3-6 year loan term or a Rev-up Premium Pass for a 1-2 year loan term!

Rev-up Premium Pass is accepted at these major establishments plus 100 more accredited merchants nationwide!
SM Robinsons PETRON ABENSON

BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK Drive Dream P1000 Premium PASS REV UP
9400010100259137405O

Drive your Dream
To get your dream loan, call the Auto Loans Direct Marketing hotline at 8456777 during office hours or 89100 (24/7). You may also visit any BPI or BPI Family Savings Bank branch, Express Banking Center, Provincial Business Center or a participating auto dealer near you. You may also text AUTO<space>your full name<space>your landline number<space>your province or city. Example: "AUTO MANNY GOMEZ 8456777 MAKATI CITY" and send it to (0917)-89-10000 or log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com and we will get started on your auto loan application.

BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK
Get started on tomorrow

8 injured as truck hits jeepney on SLEx

By Jocelyn R. Uy

EIGHT PEOPLE, INCLUDING four performers for an ABS-CBN television show, were hurt when a truck slammed into the back of a jeepney on the Southern Luzon Expressway (SLEx) before 3 a.m. yesterday.

Injured were Michael Macasabor, Marvin Guan, Roderick Maguigad and Carlito Tanauan, of the TV show "Maalaala Mo Kaya."

Also hurt were jeepney driver Rufino Fulgue, truck driver Romer James de Una and his companions identified as Carry Paul Llorente and Maria Luzviminda Llorente.

Case investigator SPO2 Eduardo Lirio told the INQUIRER that the jeepney—which was taking home 21 members of the show—was traveling on the northbound lane of the highway in Susana Heights, Barangay Tunasan, Muntinlupa City when it had a flat tire.

Fulgue parked the vehicle on the shoulder of the road to call for help from the Philippine National Construction Corp. whose traffic enforcers arrived minutes later. But as the jeepney was being towed to a service road, a six-wheeler Isuzu van rammed into the back of the vehicle.

Lirio said the ABS-CBN crew had just come from a shoot in Sta. Cruz, Laguna. All the victims, except for Tanauan who fractured a leg, were discharged from the Ospital ng Muntinlupa in the afternoon, the investigator added.

NBI's help asked to probe death of suspect in cameraman's slay

By Nancy C. Carvajal

THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF INvestigation will assist the police in the investigation of the death of a suspect tagged as the gunman in the robbery and murder of a television cameraman.

Ernani Magnayon was allegedly shot by JO2 Ricardo Zulueta, a visiting jail guard, around noon on Saturday inside the Caloocan City jail where the victim was detained for the robbery and murder of RPN 9 cameraman Ralph Ruñez.

Magnayon and two policemen, Chief Insp. Bryan Limbo and P03 Aristotle de Guzman, who were also linked to the robbery, were detained in the same facility.

Magnayon was allegedly ready to admit to the crime and testify against the two, according to police sources.

"To erase any impression of a cover-up, I asked the help of NBI Director Nelson Mantaring to participate in the investigation," Northern Police District Director Chief Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil told the INQUIRER after a reenactment of the shooting incident.

City police chief Supt. Gerry Reside said murder charges had been filed against the jail guard in the prosecutor's office.

Before Magnayon was shot, his family had filed a motion for the court to let the NBI handle the investigation of the case against him, Bataoil said.

Zulueta claimed his service firearm went off as he tried to place it under his pillow while the victim was giving him a massage. Jail sources said the police guard continued to stay in his quarters even after his deployment to the Department of Interior and Local government. *With Edson C. Tandoc Jr.*

BAYANI COFFEE

RYAN LIM

"BARISTAS" from different Gawad Kalinga sites undergo training at the Bayani Coffee shop at Baseco.

Brewing heroes in GK Baseco

By Patricia Evangelista

IT IS MONDAY AFTERNOON. FAT DROPS OF rain fall from the edge of the roof, slide down the picture window and form puddles on the concrete outside. Inside, the coffee house floor is tiled in warm shades of red and brown, the walls painted terra-cotta and lined with framed sepia prints of coffee cups and beans. Black-aproned teenagers move between the tiny tables, offering brewed coffee served in warm cups stamped with the Bayani Coffee logo.

The day's specials are scrawled on a blackboard in neon chalk. On the tables are square plates of mango sushi, or what the unimaginative call simply *suman*, the run-of-the-mill sticky rice sold by vendors along Philcoa. But this isn't ordinary *suman*: A strip of mango is wedged inside each roll, the rolls cut asymmetrically and wrapped in banana leaf—much the same way sheets of black seaweed bind the typical California Maki.

There is one other thing, other than mango sushi and fresh Batangas coffee, that sets this particular coffee shop apart from the half-dozen others that line Katipunan, Morato and the sidewalks of Greenbelt. Bayani Coffee is located in GK Baseco, one of the thriving Gawad Kalinga sites in the country and what used to be a maze of tin, tires and tattered housing.

Today, GK Baseco is dressed in her festive best. White tents are arranged at the cobbled plaza. Two white-covered tables face a microphone, carefully lowered to the level of a small girl with carefully braided hair, face knit in concentration as she recites the Panatang Makabayan.

Inside and around the tent, sitting on chairs, leaning against posts, are photographers, cameramen and media personalities. There are also women standing guard over guests, women in their 40s and 50s, dressed in traditional Filipino wear, who call themselves the "Mabuhay Ladies."

One of them is Mel Galgo. She is 41, a sailor's wife and mother of one. She is dark and plump, and tells the story of their group with much glee.

The Mabuhay Ladies is composed of women from the site, beneficiaries of the Gawad Kalinga homes. They act as tour guides, a sort of welcoming committee in GK areas that serve as models of GK success. GK Baseco is one such village. On average, over a thousand people a week come to see what many are beginning to view as a miracle.

"We had visitors before," she said in Filipino. "A Filipina and a Sri Lankan. They liked us, and they left money with instructions to throw a party for us as thanks for touring them around. We decided to use the money for uniforms." She interrupts her own story to bark out an order to another Mabuhay Lady.

"*Si Sir Joey, payungan mo*! (Get an umbrella over Sir Joey)." Joey Concepcion, whose family is responsible for over 200 homes in Buayang Bato, a GK site along the Pasig River, was sitting underneath the tent, his jacket deflecting the few drops of rain that pelted in. Immediately, a woman stands behind him, wearing a peach bonnet reminiscent of the Victorian era, and carrying a matching umbrella.

A man stands up, white-haired and robust, his glasses spotted with rain. We call him *Tito* Tony. The world knows him as Tony Meloto, the man who began the phenomenon that people know today as Gawad Kalinga. He talks about making dreams fly, about villages where people no longer drink in the streets and hang laundry in public, about hope and possibilities and people who have dedicated their lives to crushing poverty.

Poverty, he says, is not just a matter of economic limitations. It is a problem of dignity, a situation where people have no reason to hope and no cause to believe in themselves. Gawad Kalinga allows people to rebuild, to take back the dignity they lost, to have the right to middle-class hopes and middle-class dreams. The coffee shop in the plaza is another startling testament to his vision. Run by college volunteers, most of the material donated by Starbucks Coffee, it is a pilot project that trains young *baristas* from GK sites to eventually take over.

The rain wears off to a light patter. The speeches are finished, the residents have gone home, and it is quiet. I watch an old man in a T-shirt and a faded purple cap walk down the plaza. He lifts his cup of Bayani coffee in invitation. I shake my head, gesture that I've had my share, and smile back.

There is still rain in Baseco. The sky is a mass of dirty clouds. Down here, in the middle of laughter and soaring hopes, there's no sign that the rainbows will fade.

Police officer in shabu case faces raps

ANTINARCOTICS agents search the car of Chief Insp. Arsenio Tancinco which had been parked at the PDEA headquarters since his arrest Wednesday. Around six to seven grams of shabu were found inside a black pouch under the driver's seat. JOAN BONDOC

By DJ Yap

A QUEZON CITY PROSECUTOR has found probable cause to charge a police official assigned to the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency who was recently caught in a buy-bust operation.

Assistant city prosecutor John Patrick Corpuz recommended the filing of charges against Chief Insp. Arsenio Tancinco for violations of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act for allegedly trying to sell methamphetamine hydrochloride or "shabu."

No bail was recommended for the police official, who belongs to the PDEA's special enforcement group, during inquest proceedings.

On Oct. 4, operatives of Batasan Hills police led by station commander Supt. Julius Abanes, in coordination with PDEA, conducted an entrapment operation that led to Tancinco's capture in Bitoon Circle, Barangay Commonwealth.

Acting on a tip by an informant, Tancinco was caught delivering 2.4117 grams of shabu during a transaction he had arranged with an undercover agent who was posing as a buyer.

Passenger misses flight because of illegal 'load'

By Nikko Dizon

AIRPORT SECURITY FOUND more than just cigarettes in a packet owned by a passenger bound for the United States last Sunday.

They also found methamphetamine hydrochloride, more popularly known as shabu, in the cigarette pack allegedly owned by Rustum Cuyugan, police records showed.

It was a mere 0.5 grams but it was enough for Cuyugan to miss his flight to Los Angeles last Oct. 8 and for the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) to take him into custody.

It was the foil in the cigarette pack that gave Cuyugan away, said Supt. Rizalino Roxas, operations chief of the Airport Security Center.

A handheld metal detector went off when Aristeaus Dollosa, a security guard at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Centennial Terminal 2, passed it over the left back pocket of Cuyugan's denim pants.

DID YOU KNOW

OF THE 1,505 municipalities in the Philippines, only three are in the National Capital Region: Navotas, Pateros and San Juan. This is very small compared to Eastern Visayas' 139 municipalities.

On the other hand, the country has 117 cities, spread throughout 17 regions. The regions with the most cities are Western Visayas with 16, the NCR with 14, and Central Luzon and Central Visayas with 12 each. The Cordillera Administrative Region and the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao have only a city each. *Cyril L. Bonabente, Inquirer Research*

DPWH tears down billboards today . . .

From page A17

frames which used to contain advertisements will remain bare until further notice.

Mayor Jaime Fresnedi yesterday announced that owners of billboards situated on major thoroughfares in the city, especially on Tunasan and Sucat Highway, cannot put their ads back up just yet.

He added that the ban would be enforced until the City Engineer's Office and the DPWH finish conducting an assessment of structures in the city.

Taking note of six more typhoons that would likely hit the country before the year was over, the local government said it was best to regulate billboards in the city to protect the lives and properties of its residents.

In Muntinlupa alone, Milenyo toppled 11 giant billboards although no one was injured.

Meanwhile, Malacañang and business leaders urged corporate advertisers not to patronize billboards that pose a danger to motorists and pedestrians.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said advertisers should be more careful in choosing the media outlets which promote their products, picking only those that comply with government regulations and consider the public's safety.

Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry president Donald Dee, on the other hand, called on corporate advertisers to support the President's clampdown on giant billboards by "going for smaller-sized billboards that follow government regulations."

NPA attacks: Failure of intelligence

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

THE ATTACK BY THE NEW PEOple's Army (NPA) on a plant engaged in building a major airport in Negros Occidental, as well as other government and private installations in the past, could have been prevented if only the military and police intelligence were doing their homework.

If only the Armed Forces and Philippine National Police (PNP) would make use of their huge intelligence budget to pay off informers, the rebels would be on the run instead of being on the offensive.

As it is, government troops are on the defensive, staying in their camps and waiting for orders to reinforce beleaguered towns, other troops and private or government installations.

The military and police should take the fight to the NPA's alley—the hiding places and camps of the communist rebels.

How will the AFP and PNP do that? By using runners or assets like what the NPA is doing.

The police or military's best assets or runners are the common folk, the people in the barrios where the communist guerrillas are hiding.

And how can the government recruit the common folk?

First, by waging a counterpropaganda campaign against the NPA and giving justice to poor folk who were victims of oppression from rich and powerful government men, abusive cops or soldiers.

Only a handful of the rebels are hard-core ideologues, fighting for what they believe in. The rest joined the movement to get back at the government for a perceived injustice, or because they were unemployed. The NPA has given them work and pay.

The second and more important way to win the common folk to the government side is by employing some of them as spies. And, of course, they should be paid.

Military and police intelligence funds are supposed to pay for the service of informers, but these end up in the pockets of top-ranking AFP and police officers. Intelligence funds are a source of graft for military and police officials because these are not subject to audit. In other words, nobody can question them on how they disburse the funds.

Therefore, every successful major attack by the NPA, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) or the Abu Sayyaf on any town, military or police detachment, camp and private installation should be blamed on failure of intelligence.

And failure of intelligence should be blamed on AFP and PNP officials who handle intelligence funds that are not used for their intended purpose.

* * *

Ombudsman (or Ombudsgirl, as Sen. Joker Arroyo puts it) Merceditas Gutierrez, was photographed smiling as she returned from Switzerland the other day.

She looked like the proverbial cat that just ate the canary. *Parang nakakaloko.*

Of course, we wouldn't know the reason for that smile. It could just be a front for all to see. Deep inside, she was probably very nervous.

Wait till she parries questions from the public about her controversial decision on the Mega Pacific deal. Let's see if she can still afford to smile.

* * *

Be very careful where you get your domestic help. Don't just rely on friends or recruitment agencies; most of them don't care whether the domestic help they recommend is a thief or murderer.

A friend who lives in a Makati condominium complains she discovered that her maid was filching market money from her.

The maid denied the accusation, so my friend went to the market herself to check how much the maid had overpriced the goods.

When she returned to her house, the maid was gone. All her clothes and shoes and those of her daughter were torn to pieces. What's more, she found that the maid also spiked the food in the ref with poison.

The domestic help was recommended to her by a friend.

MESSAGE

DOUGLAS HUNT
Executive Director
Europcar Asia Pacific

I am pleased to be here to announce the opening of Europcar in the Philippines.

While it is gratifying to see a new country enter the Europcar world, what is most exciting are the new levels of service that will now be available to both international and domestic customers.

For the first time, Filipinos will have an access to the only totally live multi-country, multi-currency reservation and operational system in Asia Pacific. Delivering real-time confirmation of reservations with live availability.

Europcar's Filipino customers will be able to make reservations throughout Asia Pacific and the world by logging on to www.europcar.com.ph. Significantly, they will be able to choose the option of car rental with driver/guide throughout Asia with the same easy to use customer interface.

We believe that with the growth of aviation in the Asian region and the increase in the affordability of air travel our unique service proposition will be attractive to existing and first time travelers. The ability for a business traveler to book online a service with airport pick-up, a trained driver and a quality comfortable vehicle means great gains in time management. No need to wait for taxis, no need to find parking, no need to feel insecure or ask directions. Just a safe and efficient service that matches each point on your meeting itinerary. How many more customer calls could you make each day when you move the hassle of ground transportation?

REWARDING REASONS TO CHOOSE EUROPCAR

•You'll have global access to over 2,650 location and 220, 000 vehicles in 118 countries throughout the world. And each one gives you all our corporate car rental solutions.

•Europcar Australia has an exclusive relationship with Virgin Blue and Pacific Blue Airlines, we are the preferred car rental provider promoted through Virgin Blue Airlines, Pacific Blue Airlines and Blue Holidays.

•Free membership to Europcar's express Priority Ready Service program.

•The latest up-to-the-minute fleet in the Philippines. Over 100 new and current model sedans and vans avalable for self-drive rentals.

•The choice of luxury premium vehicles with English-speaking, uniformed chauffeurs.

•You receive a competitive rate program tailored specifically to your company's needs.

•You enjoy more flexible easy-to-use reservations systems. Reservations can be made through your licensed travel agent online, or through our rental locations.

Head Office
MSIC Transportation, Inc.
48 A. Rodriguez Avenue, Manggahan, Pasig City
Tel: 6816138 / 6816141

Reservations
No. 1 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Tel: 8930219 / 7529041

Rental Branches

METRO MANILA
Hotel InterContinental Manila
Tel: 8159711 local 7873 / 7894

Holiday Inn Galleria Manila
Tel: 633-7111

Crowne Plaza Galleria Manila
Tel: 6371111 local 7409

NAIA Terminal 1
Tel: 87713276

NAIA Terminal 2
Tel: 87712237

CEBU
Cebu Midtown Hotel
Tel: 2539711

The Philippines now joins Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and India as an operating Europcar country, with more new territories to be added this year and the next.

In 2005, Europcar Asia Pacific won "Best Car Rental Company in Australia." At the world travel awards, Europcar bagged 7 other awards including "World's Best Leisure Car Rental Company." To win these awards in the first year after the creation of Europcar Asia Pacific group is a testament to our commitment to quality and the customer.

Infinity Rent A Car was chosen to represent us in the Philippines because they share our commitment. There were many other candidates but none had the passion for service like the management and staff of Infinity. The combination of Europcar systems and that passion gives me a wonderful confidence in our future in this emerging market.

This matches my confidence in the Philippines as a growth destination for leisure and business travel.

Hello, welcome to EUROPCAR PHILIPPINES!

THE EVOLUTION OF EUROPCAR

Europcar was founded in Paris in 1949 and provided cars for rental. Europcar expanded into Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, UK, Italy, Spain and Potugal establishing a new franchise network in the 1970's.

In 1982, Delta Car Rentals commenced business in Melbourne, Australia as a low-priced off-airport car rental company. In 2000, Former Executive Chairman, Mario Salvo, acquired and introduced the Europcar Franchise to Australia. Combining the two company's logos, it became known as Delta Europcar and serviced corporate clients as well as leisure customers.

Delta Europcar re-branded to become Europcar in 2002. Europcar partners with hotels and airline companies and becomes the preferred car rental supplier. Europcar's alliance with Virgin Blue in 2002 grows stronger for Australia and Fiji.

Later on that year, Europcar is sold to a group of executives led by Mr. Douglas Hunt and is funded by Navis Investment Partners, who are the majority shareholders. Europcar, now known as Europcar Asia Pacific, acquires the rights to master franchise and a license to launch Europcar Asia Pacific business in 20 countries across Asia Pacific.

Today, Europcar has a fleet of over 220,000 vehicles at 2,650 locations in 118 countries covering Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Indian Ocean, Central America, Mexico, Caribbean and Asia Pacific.

"Car rental is about network. It's about being able to serve the customer in many locations. If you look at the model that has worked in Europe for over 50 years, the strength of the network in Europe is what drives the ability to serve the customer," says Mr. Doug Hunt, Executive Director Europcar Asia Pacific.

INFINITY RENT A CAR'S BEGINNINGS

MSIC Transportation, Inc. also known as Infinity Rent A Car, commenced its operations in January 2003 as a limousine and leasing company.

Infinity Rent A Car had humble beginnings as the exclusive limousine operator of Hotel InterContinental Manila with seven vehicles and a group of bright and eager staff of 20.

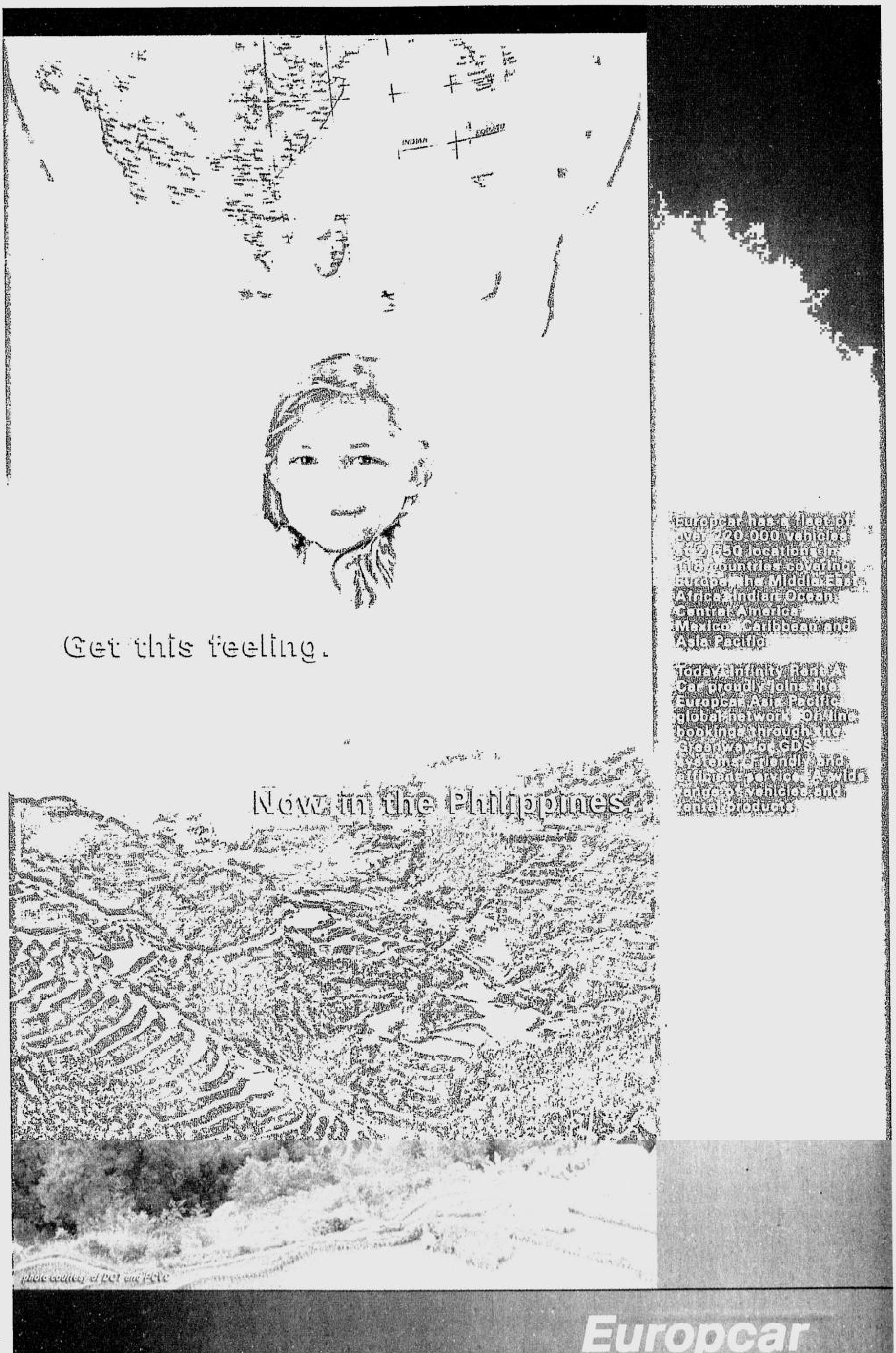
Over the years, Infinity has expanded its network of rental locations and increased its fleet selection of vehicles offering the latest make and models. It provides a wide range of rental products and services catering to both the corporate as well as the leisure markets.

Infinity has handled very prestigious special events to include the Philippine Presidential Inauguration, US President George W. Bush's State Visit, the ASEAN Ministers' Meetings among others. Infinity has also been handling for the last two years, the self-drive rental of Mr. Grooms whenever he visits Manila at least once every six months. And the numerous airport transfers of returning overseas workers at the Airport. No rental is too big or too small for Infinity!

Today marks Infinity's ascent to the global arena, welcoming the appointment as the Philippine Franchisee of Europcar Asia Pacific.

When asked what compelled them to choose Infinity Rent A Car, Mr. Douglas Hunt, Executive Director Europcar Asia Pacific said, "Infinity has a proven ability to grow the business from a very small base in a very short time. They're a very professional company, they're very energetic."

Infinity President Ma. Socorro I. Clavano and VP / General Manager, Farah Jocelyn G. Jimenez steered the company to greater heights on a vision of "simply being the best in what we do." In its more than three years of its existence, Infinity has become synonymous with quality service gaining the trust and confidence of its clients.



INDIAN OCEAN
Get this feeling.
Now in the Philippines.
photo courtesy of DOT and PCVC
Europcar
www.europcarasiapacific.com
YOU RENT A LOT MORE THAN A CAR.

Europcar has a fleet of over 220,000 vehicles at 2,650 locations in 118 countries covering Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Indian Ocean, Central America, Mexico, Caribbean and Asia Pacific.

Today, Infinity Rent A Car proudly joins the Europcar Asia Pacific global network. On-line bookings through the [illegible] of GDS systems. Friendly and efficient service. A wide range of vehicles and rental products.

$1-M offer for killer of Russian journalist

FOOTAGE from a security camera shows Anna Politkovskaya entering a building in Moscow, where she was killed a few seconds later Oct. 7. AFP

MOSCOW—A RUSSIAN NEWSPAPER OFFERED a reward of nearly one million dollars for information on the murder of its award-winning investigative reporter, as the Kremlin remained silent despite worldwide outrage over the killing.

Novaya Gazeta opened Sunday its own investigation into the murder the day before of Anna Politkovskaya, with a major shareholder announcing a 25 million rubles ($930,000) reward.

"As long as there is a Novaya Gazeta, her killers will not sleep soundly," the paper said in a front page editorial Monday, its first issue since the killing.

Politkovskaya, 48, was shot in her apartment building as she stepped out of a lift. The killer first fired in her chest, then finished her off with a shot to the head, Russian news agencies quoted police as saying.

The European Union and the United States joined Russian politicians, journalists and human rights activists in condemning her execution-style slaying.

However, the Kremlin, which Politkovskaya had so often bitterly criticised, remained silent.

Colleagues said she had been murdered because of her reporting. Her newspaper, the biweekly Novaya Gazeta, revealed she had been preparing an article on torture in Chechnya for Monday's edition.

"She had several important photographs which showed all of this... We have some of her notes and, of course, we will partly publish this material," editor in chief Dmitry Muratov said on NTV television.

The official investigation is focusing on Politkovskaya's professional activities, a law-enforcement official told the Itar-Tass news agency Sunday.

"Published articles and material being prepared for publication are being studied," the official said, noting that the possibility that the crime was a "political provocation," was also being considered.

Politkovskaya was the 42nd journalist killed in Russia since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, and the 12th in a contract-style murder since President Vladimir Putin came to power in 2000, according to the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists.

Police released security camera footage showing the chief suspect, a man wearing dark clothing and a dark baseball cap. *AFP*

Investigation over Foley focuses on private meeting in his office

WASHINGTON—FOR ALL THE QUESTIONS and curiosities, for all the contradictions and inconsistencies in the tale of Mark Foley, the investigation into how Republicans handled concerns about his conduct may hinge on what transpired on a fall afternoon last year, when a private meeting was hastily convened in his office.

Jeff Trandahl, the clerk of the House, and Rep. John Shimkus, R-Ill., who leads the board overseeing the congressional page program, had come from the House floor to confront Foley, a Florida congressman, about reports that he had been exchanging e-mail messages with a Louisiana teenager who had worked as a page on Capitol Hill.

When they arrived in Room 104 of the Cannon House Building that day, Foley was already in his office, where oil paintings of the Everglades, by his mother, were hanging alongside memorabilia from more than a decade of life in Washington. Elizabeth Nicolson, a longtime aide who had recently been named chief of staff, joined Foley for a meeting that lasted no more than 30 minutes.

What took place at this meeting—only four people were present—holds the answers to at least some of the pertinent questions in the case of Foley, who abruptly resigned from Congress late last month after learning that a series of sexually explicit messages had landed in the hands of ABC News.

"It was a brief meeting," said a senior Republican congressional aide who is familiar with the session and spoke on condition of anonymity because the matter is under investigation. "Looking back, it was probably far too brief of a meeting."

Shimkus, who did not inform other members of the page board about the meeting, would later say that he had ordered Foley to "cease all contact" with the teenager. The scope of his questioning, however, is unclear. Last week, Shimkus said he did not ask Foley whether he had communicated with other pages by e-mail, but Speaker Dennis Hastert of Illinois has said Shimkus did.

This week, when a bipartisan, four-member panel deepens its inquiry, the meeting in Foley's office will be one critical point. But investigators also intend to piece together a far broader chronology of events in the fall of Foley's political career, an examination that will take them back years earlier when whispers began circulating about the gregarious congressman's behavior.

One of their main tasks will be to sort out conflicting versions of events on a variety of fronts. *NYT*

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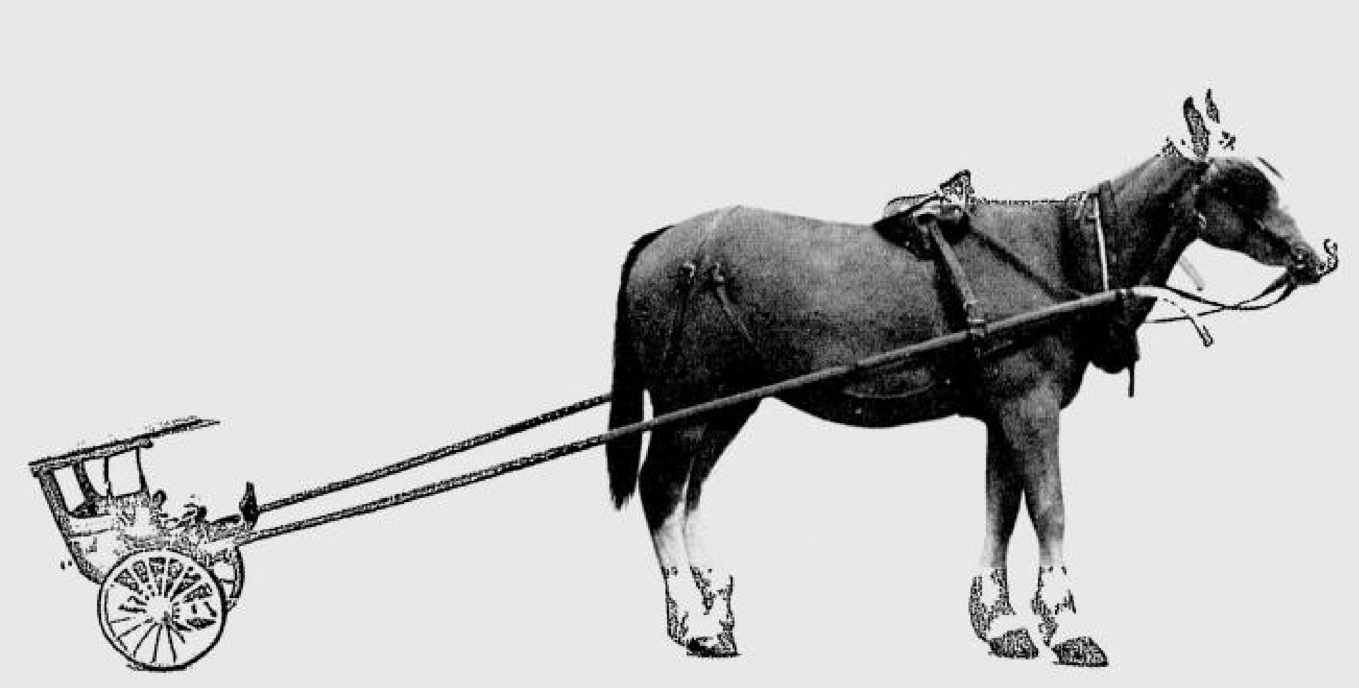

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GE imagination at work

WORLDBRIEFS

Iran refuses to suspend atomic work

TEHRAN—Iran insisted on Sunday that it would not suspend sensitive atomic work despite signs that world powers were close to agreeing on sanctions against Tehran. "We believe that suspension is totally rejected and is unacceptable," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mohammad Ali Hosseini said. Some media reports had suggested Iran may be prepared to freeze atomic fuel manufacturing work for 90 days to allow direct negotiations with the United States and other major world powers to take place. But Hosseini dismissed the reports. "It (the temporary suspension) has never been part of our policy and it will not be part of it." Iran says its nuclear program will be used only for peaceful purposes and not, as the United States alleges, to make atomic weapons. The United States, Russia, China, France, Britain and Germany agreed in London on Friday to discuss possible UN. Security Council sanctions to punish Iran for failing to heed demands to halt uranium enrichment. *Reuters*

Georgia president ready to talk to Russia

LONDON—Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili said on Sunday he was ready to talk to Russia at any time, anywhere, following the most serious confrontation with its giant neighbor in decades. Asked on a phone-in program on BBC World television whether there were any attempts at reconciliation, Saakashvili said he had offered to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin since the two last spoke together two months ago. Russia has severed all transport and postal links with Georgia, stopped issuing entry visas to Georgians, and raided Georgian-owned businesses in Moscow in a row over Tbilisi's arrest last month of four Russian soldiers on spying charges. The soldiers were released but their arrest ignited smoldering tensions between the two nations at odds for years over Georgia's wish to move closer to the West and Tbilisi's hostility to the Russian leadership. *Reuters*

Castro recovering, not dying—brother Raul

HAVANA—Cuban President Fidel Castro is recovering from intestinal surgery and not dying, his brother and stand-in Raul Castro said on Sunday, apparently responding to recent reports the Cuban president had terminal cancer. "Fidel is doing well. He has a telephone and is using it more and more," Raul Castro told a congress of primary and junior high school students in Havana. Time magazine reported over the weekend that US. government officials believe Castro, 80, has terminal cancer. One official cautioned that definitive proof was not available. Castro issued a communique on July 31 stating he was temporarily ceding power to his younger brother Raul, 75, because he was undergoing surgery for intestinal bleeding and would need weeks to recover. *Reuters*

Asia-Pacific warned of warming disaster

SYDNEY—MILLIONS OF people in the Asia-Pacific region could be forced from their homes and suffer increasing disease, cyclones and floods caused by global warming, scientists warned Monday.

Climate change will seriously threaten regional human security and national economies this century, according to a report by the Australian government's Commonwealth Scientific and Research Organization (CSIRO).

"Chronic food and water insecurity and epidemic disease may impede economic development in some nations," the report says.

"Degraded landscapes and inundation of populated areas by rising seas may ultimately displace millions of individuals, forcing intra- and inter-state migration."

The report, commissioned by a coalition of environmental and church and development groups, analyzes predictions of temperature increases of up to 2°C by 2030 and up to seven degrees by 2070.

Scientists blame global warming on greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, produced mainly by the burning of fossil fuels including coal and oil, for causing rising temperatures worldwide.

"Rapid growth in large regional economies such as China and India has elevated human prosperity," the report says.

"However, unless ultimately decoupled from fossil-fuel use, such growth also threatens to exacerbate the climate challenge." The CSIRO says that remaining below the generally accepted threshold for "dangerous" climate change of about 2°C would require global greenhouse gas emissions to be reduced by 30-55 percent below 1990 levels. *AFP*

WHAT'S INSIDE

Cardinals trip Padres, forge duel vs Mets/A23

SPORTS

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Editor **Teddyvic S. Melendres**

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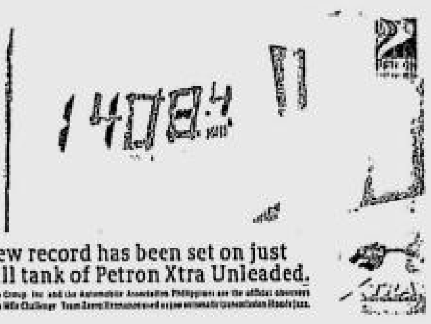

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Lina steps down as BAP head

LINA: Exhausted all means

By Roy Luarca

THE BALL HAS BECOME TOO HOT TO HANDLE for Joey Lina. He has to pass it off to let the simmering basketball heat cool down.

Setting aside his personal interest to boost the country's bid to regain international recognition for its favorite sport, the former senator yesterday tendered his resignation as president of the Basketball Association of the Philippines.

Lina's decision to give up the position he had held since June last year was contained in a letter, dated Oct. 8, addressed to the BAP chair Michel J. Lhuillier and the board of directors.

Lina also sent copies of his letter to Patrick Baumann, secretary general of the international basketball federation (Fiba) and business tycoon Manuel V. Pangilinan, head of the three-man panel mandated by the Fiba to steer the newly formed Samahang Basketbol ng Pilipinas toward a Philippine Olympic Committee recognition.

In the letter, Lina revealed that he had to step aside after the POC,

LINA/ A22

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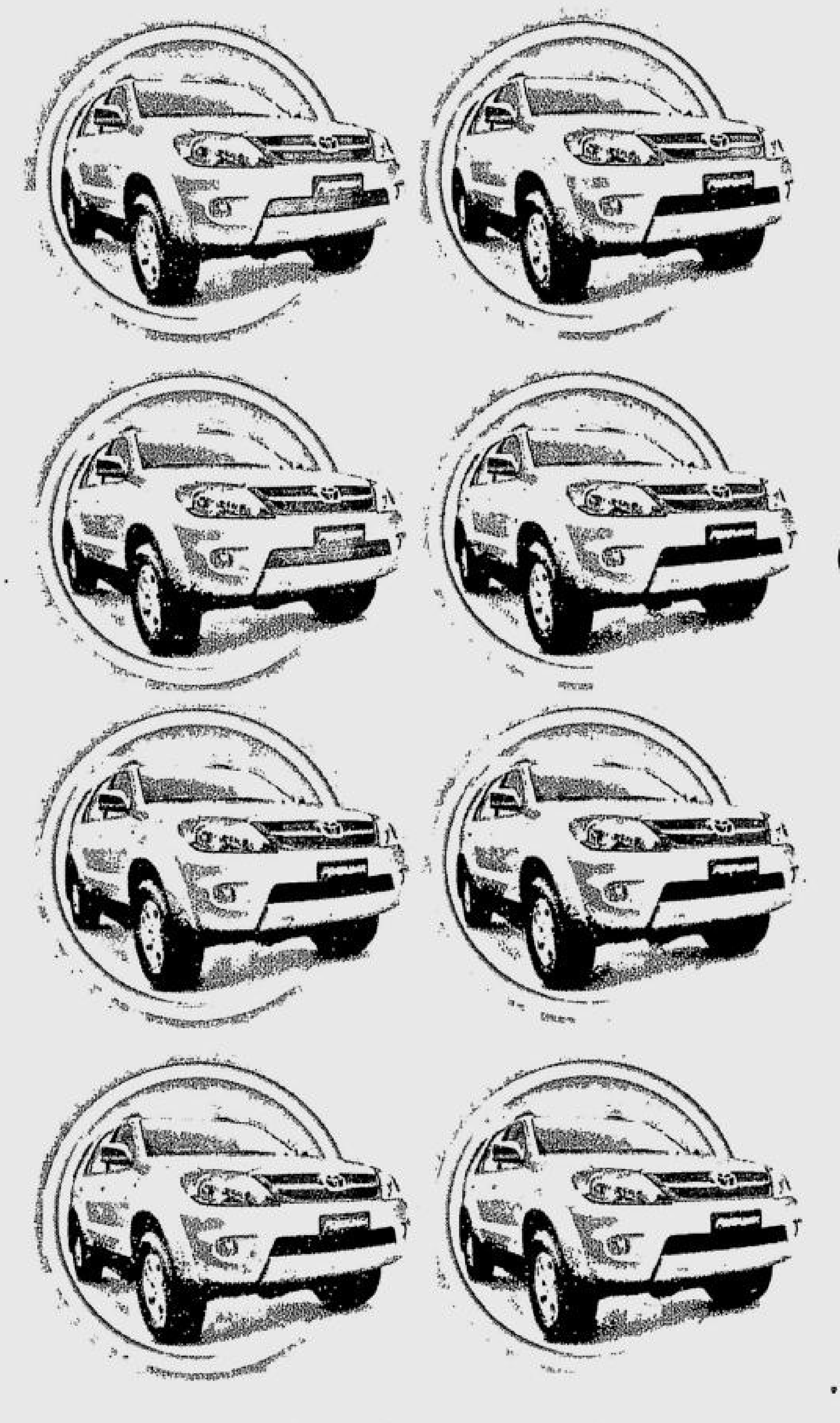

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Lina steps down as basketball association head

From page A21

headed by Jose "Peping" Cojuangco, rejected the SBP unity ticket, composed of Pangilinan as chair and Lina as president. The ticket had been approved by the BAP board and Pangilinan in a meeting on Tuesday.

Pangilinan, according to Lina, conveyed the unity ticket to the POC leadership, only to be told "in no unmistakable terms" that SBP will not be accepted by the POC if certain personalities in the BAP, including Lina, are in the common slate.

Informed of the POC stand Friday that he is an "unacceptable" choice, Lina said he took it upon himself to relinquish his "position as BAP president to provide the BAP with the leeway to nominate other BAP officers for SBP president, who would be more acceptable to the POC to be part of the unity ticket."

"I have exhausted all ways and means to unify basketball," said Lina in a press conference at the Manila Hotel yesterday. "But all these efforts seem not enough to convince the POC."

Bernie Atienza, Pilipinas Basketball president, said the new basketball group would pursue its objective to get Fiba recognition even without Lina.

"It's unfortunate, but life has to go on for the panel, the SBP and also for Pilipinas Basketball in our negotiation to have a unified basketball association with Mr. Pangilinan at the helm," said Atienza.

In his letter, Lina also took a swipe at the POC for its "undue interference" in SBP choice of its officers.

Lina was earlier recommended to the BAP presidency by the POC hierarchy itself to solve the perceived problems then plaguing the BAP. With Lina barely three weeks into office, however, the POC expelled the BAP which resulted in the Fiba suspension on Philippine participation in Fiba-sanctioned tournaments.

In an agreement approved by the Fiba during last month's world basktball championship in Japan, the BAP decided to merge with Pilipinas Basketball, a newly formed organization backed by the POC, to pave the way for the formation of the SBP. *With a report from June Navarro*

Bombers stun Tigers; Lancers best Falcons

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE SANTO TOMAS TIGERS LOST THEIR TOOUCH IN THE SECond period. Minutes later, the UAAP champions were gone.

The Jose Rizal Heavy Bombers overcame a double-digit deficit in the fourth period to shock the Tigers, 65-63, and clinch a quarterfinal berth in the Collegiate Champions League yesterday at the UST Gym.

"We made UST as our inspiration," said coach Ariel Vanguardia after the wild-card Bombers recovered from a 50-61 deficit in the final quarter.

"No one expected UST to become champions. I told the boys that we can do the same thing. We never took a vacation. We've been practicing since our last NCAA game."

The Tigers scored only two points in the final period on Dylan Ababou's free throws that tied the game at 63, 3:32 minutes left.

As the Tigers continued to struggle, Mark Cagoco nailed the game-clinching free throws with 1:56 minutes left.

UST's rookie sensation Jervy Cruz, Melchor Gile and June Dizon were ejected in the second quarter due to separate scuffles.

It was a day of upsets as the 10th-ranked University of Visayas Lancers stunned the Adamson Falcons, 70-67, in the first game.

Forward Morsie Akad towed the Lancers to the next round by pouring in six of his 13 markers in the final stretch.

"We've been preparing for this competition in Cebu," said coach Boy Cabahug of the Lancers, champions in the Cebu Schools Athletic Foundation Incorporated (Cesafi) for six straight years.

"It was fortunate that the breaks of the game went our way. Our game plan clicked and our outside shooting was also an advantage."

With the Lancers holding a precarious 68-67 lead, Von Lanete iced the game with two free throws in the last 6.9 seconds.

The Falcons, the UAAP semifinalists, bowed out of the knockout-style tourney when NCAA Most Valuable Player Ken Bono missed a potential game-tying triple at the buzzer.

The scores:

First Game

UV 70—Akad 13, Rodriguez 11, Diputaso 9, Berame 9, Dennison 9, Manique 9, Lanete 8, Esperat 2, Arda 0, Canoy 0, Sendrijas 0.

ADAMSON 67—Cabahug 20, Bono 13, Hugnatan 12, Gonzalgo 9, Yong 5, Pacheco 2, Agustin 2, Poloyapoy 2, Basilio 2, Gorospe 0, Santos 0, Orera 0.

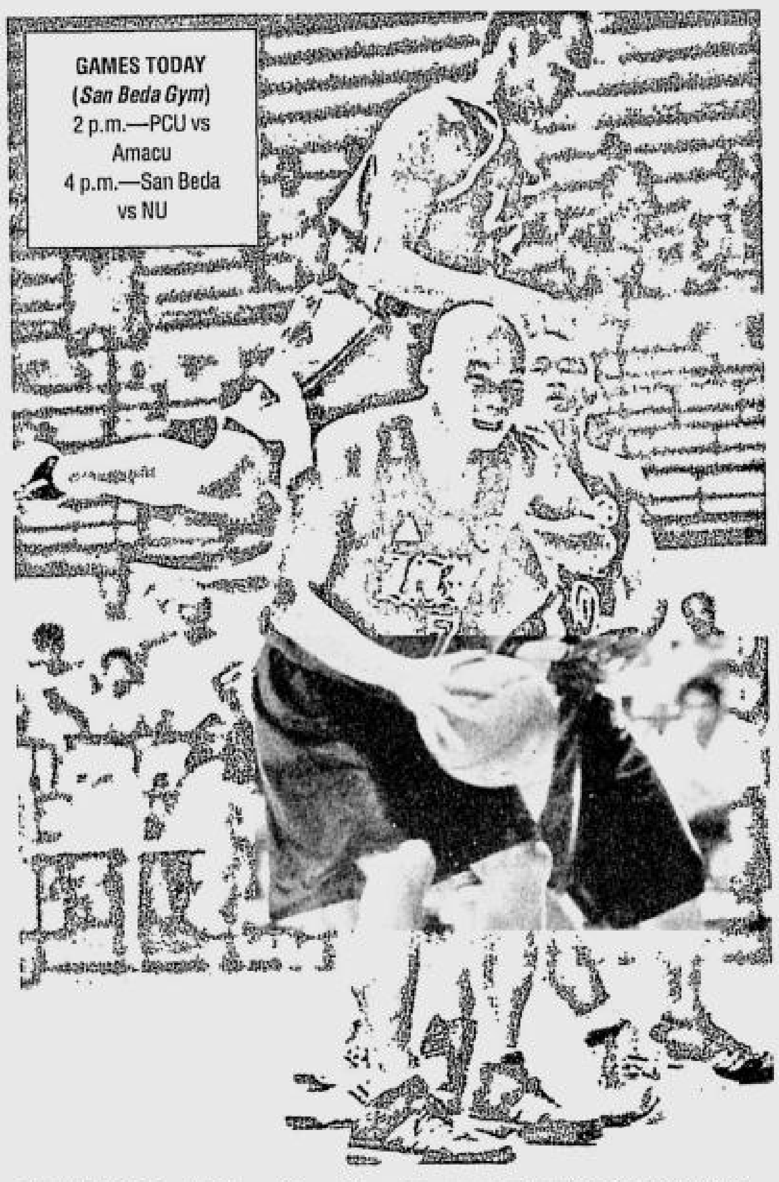
Quarters: 17-15, 38-36, 54-48, 70-67

Second Game

JRU 65—Cagoco 17, Wilson 15, Dedicatoria 12, Hayes 7, Nocom 4, Se 3, Sena 3, Fenequito 2, Pradas 2, Echane 0, Caspe 0.

UST 63—Taylor 17, Duncil 16, Cruz 10, Espiritu 4, Cortez 4, Evangelista 4, Gile 3, Allera 3, Ababou 2, Canlas 0, Dizon 0, Cuan 0.

Quarters: 18-24, 30-39, 50-61, 65-63



GAMES TODAY
(*San Beda Gym*)
2 p.m.—PCU vs Amacu
4 p.m.—San Beda vs NU

LETRAN'S Mark Balneg fakes off an airborne University of Cebu player during their knockout game. The Knights won, 81-71. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Pido joins SMB coaching staff

JARENCIO

FOR UNIVERSITY OF Santo Tomas Tigers coach Pido Jarencio, when it rains it pours.

A little over a week after his España-based Growling Tigers clinched the UAAP championship against the highly favored Ateneo Blue Eagles, the rookie bench tactician was appointed as an assistant coach of San Miguel Beer in the Philippine Basketball Association.

"*Inuulan yata ako ng swerte* (I'm still in luck)," said the 42-year-old Jarencio, who himself was a standout as a UST Glowing Goldie from 1981 to 1984, even though his school failed to win a title then.

"*Iba yata talaga 'pag marami ang nagdadasal para sa ginagawa mo* (I think this is because many prayed for me for what we have accomplished)."

Jarencio is no stranger to the Beermen, having spent some of his memorable playing days in the pro league with the team under coach Norman Black, who ironically was the mentor of the Ateneo team that Pido's boys beat in the UAAP finals.

In yet another ironic twist, a true-blue Atenean, Chot Reyes, now heads SMB's coaching staff. Nevertheless, Reyes welcomed Jarencio's addition to the Beermen's coaching staff.

"By beating Ateneo, Pido has earned my respect," said Reyes. "He showed his talent in planning each game, making adjustments and motivating his players.

Reyes had mentored Jarencio at Pop Cola, Pido's last PBA team.

Jarencio will be reunited with SMB team manager Samboy Lim, who was once his teammate at Northern Consolidated Cement-RP team and the Lagerlite-Magnolia ball clubs of the PABL (now PBL).

PBL Rookie Camp deadline today; age limit set at 26

TODAY IS THE DEADLINE FOR the submission of application forms for the 2007 PBL Rookie Camp.

Only players below the age of 27 are allowed to join the one-day camp slated at the JCSGO Gym in Cubao, Quezon City.

Some 40 budding stars have already confirmed their participation in the camp where their shooting range, ball handling skill and leaping ability will be put to test.

Joey Guanio will supervise the camp set from noon to 5 p.m. Entries that fail to meet the deadline—from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.—will no longer be entertained.

For details, call Lanie Sagayap or Antang at 667-3008 to 09, or visit the PBL office at Unit 2302-A West Tower, Philippine Stock Exchange Centre, Ortigas Center.

Bata Reyes still at the top of his game

By Marc Anthony Reyes

"THEY CAN REPLACE ME BUT I don't know if they can make billiards bigger than I did."

That's Efren "Bata" Reyes, still at the top of his game, talking about the younger Filipino players who are slowly making their marks on the international billiards scene.

At 52, retirement is still not in the vocabulary of the billiards legend.

Reyes showed he still has more productive years in pool after a laser treatment on his eyes restored his old sharp and deadly focus.

"I still have more competitive years," Reyes said in Filipino, before plunging into a series of exhibition matches at the Fontana Leisure Park and Casino inside Clark Field in Pampanga over the weekend.

"Look at Amang Parica, he is still there and he's 56 or 57 years old. Even at 60, you can still compete but it's going to be hard to win."

Reyes still refuses to name his possible successor, although he says there are many worthy heirs on the horizon.

Of the 10 challengers in his exibition matches at the Fontana—his way of thanking his *cabalens* and avid supporters for his recent run of international victories—Reyes gave up only one rack—to a 12-year-old boy.

But the man foreign pool commentators love to call "The Magician" quickly offered an advice to the wide-eyed boy: "Stay in school, billiards is not an alternative to a good education."

REYES: More productive years

RP Asiad team needs 'ninongs'

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

LESS THAN TWO MONTHS BEFORE THIS YEAR'S Doha Asian Games on Dec. 1-15, Philippine team officials are still having a hard time raising the extra funds needed by the athletes and coaches who are taking part in the quadrennial meet.

The national team needs an additional P5-P7 million to send the 367-strong contingent to Doha, the country's biggest delegation in the 55-year history of the Asiad.

In the Doha delegation are 268 athletes—48 more than the 220 sent to the Busan Games four years ago—and 99 coaches, NSAs and other team officials.

Getting sponsors, particularly from the private sector, has been awfully difficult, according to PSC Commissioner Richie Garcia, deputy chief of mission of Team RP.

In my opinion, the Doha-bound athletes are short of sponsors because many of the firms awash with cash might have already been tapped by the organizers of some of the other major international sporting events like the World Pool Championship at the PICC on Nov. 4-12 and the Manny Pacquiao-Erik Morales setto in Las Vegas on Nov. 18.

There are simply too many million-peso sporting events being slated this year, which—like it or not—could drain the pockets of even the country's richest and most profitable business corporations.

Another compelling reason why Philippine sports lacks corporate sponsors is the fact that our leaders are always quarrelling, something which serves no purpose other than demoralize the poor, ill-trained and ill-equipped athletes.

It's a shame but no matter what we do, everything would be wasted if we don't change our attitude. As one avid sports follower said, "Many Filipino sports leaders lack genuine enthusiasm for sports, most are self-centered and proficient only in finger-pointing."

Our sports officials should not always fight, he added, stressing that they should possess the strong discipline of their Asian counterparts from Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia. "Should we fail to wake up, even Vietnam could overtake us."

Another major concern is the declining performances of the Philippines in the international sporting arena. In the past, Filipino athletes were a dominant force, particularly in Asia.

But the country is now a washout. The Philippines won three gold medals in the 2002 Busan Asiad, which was far better than the single gold won in the 1998 Bangkok Games. Still, this was a big letdown compared with the performances of its rivals.

* * *

MISCELLANY: In what is expected to attract a sellout crowd, two of the pre-tournament heavy picks in the ongoing PBA Philippine Cup—crowd favorite Barangay Ginebra and vastly improved Red Bull—clash on Sunday, Oct. 15, at the Araneta Coliseum. Many experts say coach Jong Uichico's unbeaten Kings (2-0), who boast a star-studded lineup, are the solid choices to win, but Red Bull coach Yeng Guiao is unfazed. He said, "We are ready." The Photokina franchise is also 2-0, a fitting welcome to newly appointed general manager Michael Chua, son of team owner George Chua…. There will be a reunion of Letran athletes, past and present, their friends and relatives at the school's campus on Sunday, Oct. 15. The activities start at 10 a.m. with a Mass, followed by lunch and a basketball marathon and other games…. Former softball president Mario Raymundo has promised to clarify the issue regarding the softball controversy. A former Pasig City mayor, Raymundo said he would issue a statement in due time.

SPORTSWATCH

Gomez rips India ace, ties for 21st

FILIPINO NATIONAL MASTER John Paul Gomez crushed Indian ace Rahul Shangma in the sixth round late Sunday to gain a share of 21st to 33rd places in the World Junior Chess Championship in Yerevan, Armenia. The 20-year-old Gomez now has 3.5 points and will next face Russian International Master Dmitry Andreikin. Seventh seed GM Yuriy Kryvoruchko of Ukraine remains on top with 5.5 points after beating second seed GM Wang Hao of China. ***Marlon Bernardino, Contributor***

Two stag derbies slated at Roligon

TWO BIG COCKFIGHTING EXTRAvaganzas sizzle at Roligon Mega Cockpit this month beginning with the Diamante Brothers 5-Stag Derby on Oct. 14, 16 and 18 with P1 million in guaranteed prize at stake. Entry fee is P7,700. Interested parties may bring stags to Roligon for screening. The Clean Up 4-Stag Derby, originally set on Oct. 28, will instead be held on Oct. 24. For an entry fee of P6,600, the winners stand to receive P400,000. Roligon owner Rolly Ligon said admission prices will be reduced to P300 for the two derbies. For inquiries, call 851-2275, 833-1638 or 852-9812.

RACING TIPS

BY TOP CHOICE

Race 1—(Qrt/Tri)—Alam Mo Na Yan (2), Zacky's Pet (1), Good Humour (6), Summer Rain (3)

Race 2—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Striker (7), Sambat (8), EJ'S Magic (10), Spanish Drums (2), Hundred Reason (9)

Race 3—(Qrt/Tri)—Victory Ranger (3), Given (5), Manila Magic (4), D As In Dixie (2)

Race 4—(Morning Glory (3), Tiedil Forever (6), Heart Of The Wind (7), More Love (4), Music Quest (2)

Race 5—(Qrt/Tri)—Premiere Act (6), Mika's Pride (7), Yankee Clipper (4), Long Hitter (1)

Race 6—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)—GI Speedball (4), Lucky Punch (3), Iron Tower (10), Sutter's Quest (8), Looney Tune (7), Dow Jones (9)

Race 7—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Mutjora (3), Carbon Copy (6), Chelseasmile (7), Amaretta (1), Roar Runner (4)

Race 8—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)—Please Don't Stop (11), Overture (7), Divine Diva (1), Pabilic Express (9), Makati Haven (4), Bumpy Johnson (8)

Karters Turalba, Orduña vying in Italy tilt

KARTING PRODIGIES JUHA TURALBA and Joey Orduña will represent the Philippines in the tough 2006 ROK Cup International Finals slated Thursday to Sunday at the South Garda Track in Lonato, Italy.

Turalba, who left last Sunday, is seeing action in the ROK Junior Championship while Orduña, who is set to leave on tomorrow, is entered in the Mini-ROK division.

"It's their first major competition in Italy and I advised them to put the country's flag first and do their best against the world's best young karters," said team co-leader JP Tuason, president of Tuason Racing School which hosted a sendoff party for Turalba and Orduña recently.

Toti Turalba is joint head of delegation of TRS-Tonykart Team Philippines which is sponsored by Ready 2 Race Gear, Alpine stars, Petron Philippines, Oakley, Ford, Bosch, and HJC Racing Helmets.

"Knowing the kind of fighting spirit they have despite their young age, I believe both Juha and Joey will deliver," Tuason added.

Turalba, a seventh grader at the International School Manila (ISM), also saw action in the Asian Karting Open Championship in Macau last year.

The 10-year-old Orduña has shown he can beat older rivals. The fifth grader at Maria Montessori School is running second overall in the Mini-ROK division of the ongoing National Karting Series.

TRS-Tonykart Team Philippines' Joey Orduña (front left) and Juha Turalba (front right) with Toti Turalba (left) and JP Tuason at the sendoff party.

Ochoa wins, keeps Player of the Year bid going

LORENA OCHOA: A very special day AFP

MORELIA, MEXICO—LORENA OCHOA earned the home victory she coveted here Sunday, running away with the $1-million LPGA Corona Morelia Championship.

"For me, it's like the US Open, being able to play in my country and win in front of my people," she said. "It's a very special day." Not only did her triumph delight home fans, it kept Ochoa in the chase for the LPGA Player of the Year award.

Ochoa posted a final-round 69 for a 20-under total of 272. She was five shots in front of runner-up Julieta Granada, a rookie from Paraguay.

Ochoa claimed her fourth win of the season, tying Australian Karrie Webb for the tour lead.

Her $150,000 winner's prize saw her surpass $2 million in earnings, joining Annika Sorenstam as the only players to do so in a season. She opened a lead of more than $250,000 over the idle Webb on the money list.

Ochoa's victories this season have come in conventional tour events, while Webb's triumphs include a major title at the Kraft Nabisco Championship and the prestigious Evian Masters.

Also in contention for Player of the Year honors is Sorenstam, who has three wins, including the US Women's Open.

Ochoa took the lead in the tournament on Friday, when she scorched the Tres Marias course for a 64.

On Sunday she had an early wobble with a bogey at the third, but she rebounded with birdies at four, eight, 10, 13 and 15.

Her five-stroke victory margin was the second-largest on the LPGA tour this season, surpassed only by Webb's seven-stroke win over Ochoa and South Korean Hee-Won Han at the Michelob ULTRA Open in May.

Granada carded a 71 for a total of 15-under 277, the best finish of her brief career. *AFP*

Love breaks title drought

WASHINGTON—DAVIS LOVE III ENDED A PGA Tour title drought of more than three years with a two-shot victory at the Greensboro Classic in North Carolina Sunday.

Co-leader overnight with fellow American Chris Couch, the 42-year-old from Charlotte cruised home with a six-under-par 66 in damp, overcast conditions at Forest Oaks Country Club.

Love, whose last Tour victory came at the 2003 International, reeled off three consecutive birdies from the 13th to overhaul early pacesetter Eric Axley before finishing on 16-under 272.

It was his 19th career title on the world's most lucrative circuit and his second at Forest Oaks, where he first triumphed in 1992.

"It's a big relief and hopefully the start of bigger things to come," an elated Love told reporters.

"I told (US Ryder Cup captain) Tom Lehman about a month before the PGA (Championship) that I was going to play good before the end of the year. I just couldn't promise him when it was going to be."

Love was overlooked as a captain's pick for last month's Ryder Cup after being an ever-present at the biennial team since making his debut in 1993. "I'm excited to pull it off here," added the North Carolina native, who helped redesign the Forest Oaks layout in 2003.

"People want me to win, they expect me to win and especially at a place like this. My problem is expectations, whether they're mine or other people's. It's nice to put those aside and just play golf." *Reuters*

Canlubang Am begins Oct. 17

GOLF'S FINEST AMATEURS, INCLUDING DEfending champion Boyet Saragoza and Jonel Ababa, will see action in the Canlubang Amateur Open Oct. 17 at the north and south courses of the Canlubang golf complex in Laguna.

Ababa will be coming into the four-day event fresh from his victory in the Samsung Amateur Tour in Del Monte over the weekend.

Registration deadline for the seventh edition of the tournament is Sunday. Entry fee is P2,500 per player (non-member), inclusive of green fee, one free practice round, a giveaway and a raffle ticket. Fee for club members is P1,000.

For details, call Cangolf at (049)549-7201 or (049)549-1363 (telefax) (Fely Anillo/Darly Patalot); or at Makati office at (02)897-6887 or (02)890-9321 (Maite Tengco or Jenny Santos).

Others expected to compete in the centerpiece Championship Division I are national training pool members Miko Alejandro, Gino Bunyi, Dante Becierra, Miko Yee, Marcel Puyat, Wolen Superal and Jikjik Abdon.

Fancied to head the field in the ladies division are Mia Piccio, Lora Roberto, Bambee dela Paz, Crystal Superal and Linnel de Villa.

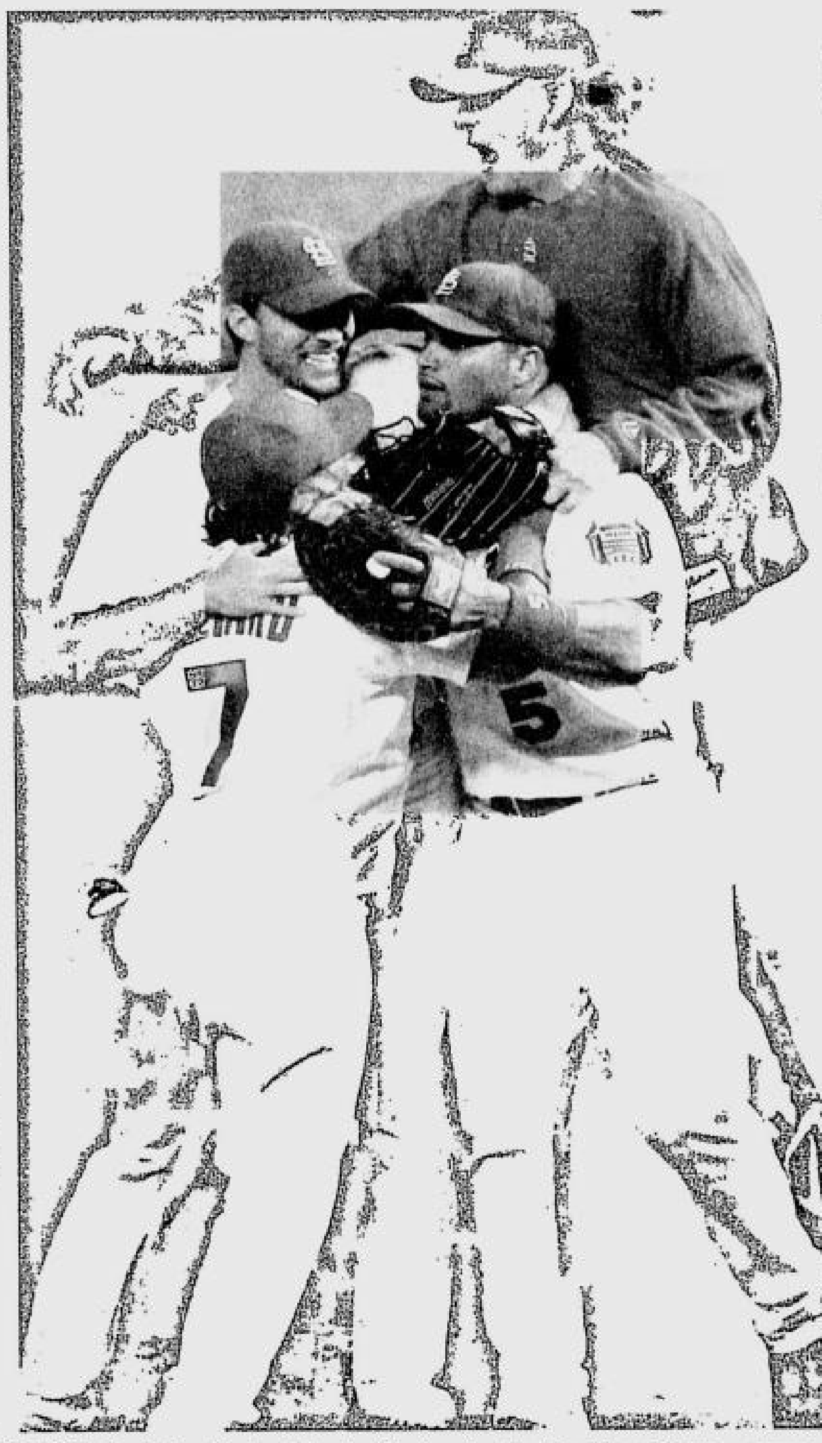
Ateneo de Naga golf meet reset

THE ATENEO DE NAGA UNIVERSITY HIGH School Class '81 (AdeNUHS '81) silver anniversary fellowship tournament has been moved from Sept. 29 to Oct. 11 due to Typhoon "Milenyo."

Milenyo rendered the Camp Aguinaldo course unplayable for three days, forcing organizers to reset the event at the same venue. Tee-off time, originally set at 11 a.m. was moved to 6-9 p.m.

A brand-new Toyota Vios 1.3 E is the hole-in-one prize. The golfest will benefit the Class '81 scholarship fund for Bicolano students.

Registration starts at 6 a.m. while the awards fellowship is set at noon. For inquiries, call 911-6001 local 6663 or 6204, 0920-9520297, 522-5953 and 400-9745.



THE St. Louis Cardinals celebrate after beating the San Diego Padres. REUTERS

Cardinals trip Padres, forge duel vs Mets

NEW YORK—CHRIS CARPENTER COLLECTED HIS SECOND DECISION AND JUAN ENCARnacion's RBI triple keyed a four-run sixth inning as the St. Louis Cardinals eased past the San Diego Padres, 6-2, on Sunday to advance to the National League Championship Series.

The Cardinals spotted San Diego a 2-0 lead then hit back with six unanswered runs to take the best-of-five divisional series, 3-1, and reach the NLCS for the third straight year igniting a wild celebration at Busch Stadium.

St. Louis will now travel to New York where they will take on the Mets in Game One of the best-of-seven tilt starting Wednesday.

"We had periods where we played very well, we had periods where we didn't," Cardinals manager Tony LaRussa told MLB.com.

"So I certainly didn't blame anybody that didn't think we had a really good shot.

"From the first game in San Diego through tonight, the energy and the passion and excitement of the dugout was just as good as you can have. And I think it really lifted our club. And we were an up club."

Carpenter, who pitched the Cardinals to a 5-1 win in Game One, overcame an unsteady start in Game Four to deliver seven effective innings.

The Cy Young award winner allowed two runs on seven hits while striking out five with three walks before turning the mound over to the bullpen, who closed out the contest with two scoreless innings of relief.

"I came out in the first and, you know, I think I was trying to do a little too much," said Carpenter. "I wasn't attacking the strike zone, wasn't getting strike one, trying to make perfect pitches on the corners, and that's not my game.

"Fortunately, I was able to get out of it with two runs, and we popped two runs in the bottom there to make it a whole new game.

"You go one game at a time and play as hard as you can, nine innings as hard as you can, and give it everything you've got. If you end up getting beat, you get beat."

Riding the momentum from their 3-1 win in Game Three, the Padres jumped out to a 2-0 first-inning lead. But the Cardinals came right back in the bottom half of the inning, Ronnie Belliard cracking a two-out, two-run single to center to level the game at 2-2.

The Cardinals seized control with a four-run burst in the sixth that was sparked by Encarnacion's triple to right that scored Albert Pujols, who had walked to lead off the inning.

Once again the Padres were plagued by an inability to push across runs going 2-for-32 with men in scoring position. *Reuters*

Tigers-Athletics series up tomorrow

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA—A MAJOR League Baseball showdown of title-hungry teams begins here Tuesday when the long-struggling Detroit Tigers and Oakland A's begin the best-of-seven American League finals.

Three years after setting a one-season league record with 119 losses, the Tigers toppled the New York Yankees, baseball's richest and winningest team this season, in the first round of the playoffs.

Either Oakland or Detroit will advance to the World Series, with the winner hosting the National League champion in the Oct. 21 opener.

The A's had lost six consecutive playoff series over the past 17 years before ousting Minnesota in the first round.

The Tigers have not won the World Series since 1984, when they defeated the San Diego Padres for the crown. Their only other title since 1945 came in 1968 when they outlasted St. Louis in a seven-game classic.

The A's twice reached the World Series three years in a row, sweeping titles from 1972-1974 but losing in 1988 and 1990 around their most recent crown, a 1989 sweep of the Bay Area-rival San Francisco Giants.

Oakland's Barry Zito, a 16-game winner this season with a 1.29 earned-run average in his only 2006 start against the Tigers, will start Tuesday's opener against Detroit's Nate Robertson, who was 13-13 overall and 1-1 versus the A's.

Detroit pitcher Jeremy Bonderman was benched in 2003 after losing 19 games so he would not risk bearing the shame of being a 20-game loser.

This year he pitched Detroit past the Yankees in the deciding game of their series, showing the Tigers bore no ill effects of a late-season fade that cost them the AL Central division crown on the final day of the six-month campaign.

"This is a great thing that happened to us," Bonderman said. *AFP*

GDAP names Razon top 2006 personality

THE GOLF DISTRIBUTORS ASSOciation of the Philippines will honor business tycoon Enrique "Ricky" Razon as its Golf Personality of the Year during the opening of the 11th Philippine International Golf Show on Oct. 2 at the Megatrade Hall 2 of SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City.

Razon will be cited for his contributions to the promotion of the game of golf in the country, including an annual professional tournament in honor of his father and the establishment of a training pool funded by his International Container Terminal Services Inc.

Players of the ICTSI pool, led by jungolf sensation Dottie Ardina who is herself a former GPY awardee, have already won numerous international competitions the past two years.

The ceremony honoring Razon will be held as one of the highlights of the ceremony ushering in the opening of the Show which is already fully booked.

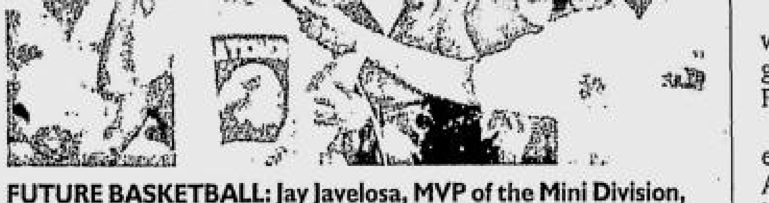
Exhibit organizer reported that 38 companies most of which are giant brands in equipment and apparel like Callaway, Mizuno, Ping, Taylor Made, Wilson, Nike, Dunlop are occupying the 106 booths available in the Show area.

For inquires, call Fairs and More, Inc. (Sweet or Karen) 8451324 or 7596680 or email info@fairsandmore.com.ph.

FILIPINO CONQUEROR: Armenian Vic Darchinyan, (right) lands a right to Fil-Am Glenn Donaire during their IBF/IBO flyweight championship fight at Mandalay Bay Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas on Saturday. Darchinyan won when Donaire quit in the sixth round. AP

Motorcycle racer dies after crash

MADRID—SPANISH rider Ruben Torres died as a result of injuries sustained in a crash during the Spanish motorcycle championships at the Circuit de Catalunya on Sunday. Sports daily Marca reported on its website that the 18-year-old rider suffered serious injuries to his head and thorax when he was hit by two other bikes after he had crashed during the race. They said he had been treated at the circuit clinic but died shortly after being transferred to the Catalunya General hospital in a helicopter. *Reuters*



FUTURE BASKETBALL: Jay Javelosa, MVP of the Mini Division, leads the oath of sportsmanship during the opening of the Second Future's Basketball League at the Meralco Gym. In the same occasion, PBA champion coach Ryan Gregorio, four-time PBA MVP Alvin Patrimonio and Alaska ace Jeffrey Cariaso give inspirational speeches to the young basketball players.

Parker powers Spurs past Maccabi

PARIS—TONY PARKER SCORED 27 points to help the San Antonio Spurs beat Maccabi Tel Aviv, 97-84, Sunday in an exhibition game.

Tim Duncan added 15 points, while Manu Ginobili scored 10 to give the Spurs their second win in France, Parker's home country.

"It's been a long week," said Parker, who scored 26 points against Asvel Villeurbane on Thursday. "It's been a pleasure to come back here and see family and friends, and we had two good games and two wins."

Parker, who missed playing for France at the world championships because of a broken finger, has fully recovered, Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said.

Parker received a standing ovation when he left the court, a minute from the end, to shouts of "Tony! Tony!"

"Some day it would be great to play in a world championship," Parker said. "But now I will just focus on the Spurs and hope we have a great season."

Jaime Arnold led Maccabi with 15 points, while Nikola Vujic added 14.

"There's no excuses today," said Maccabi's Rodney Buford, who played in the NBA with the New Jersey Nets. "We just didn't play Maccabi ball today. I just couldn't get any rhythm out there."

France striker Thierry Henry attended the game and sat next to Parker's girlfriend Eva Longoria.

"It's great to watch him. He can change a game in a moment," Henry said.

Parker has combined practice with guest appearances and hospital visits since he returned to France.

"If he's not tired now, he never will be," Popovich said. "He's been up 22 hours day. That shows what a consummate professional he is."

On Saturday, a wax model of Parker was unveiled in Paris' Grevin museum.

"It's a great honor. Not just anybody gets into the Grevin museum. I think only seven athletes ever have," Parker said. "I always try and represent my country well in the United States. I hope I will continue to help people dream."

The Spurs are one of four teams playing on the NBA Europe Live tour. The Philadelphia 76ers, Los Angeles Clippers and Phoenix Suns also are taking part.

Last year, Maccabi beat the Toronto Raptors in an exhibition game. *AP*

SPORTS

RP archers bag World Cup bronze

THE PHILIPPINES' women's compound team of (from left) Jennifer Chan, Joann Tabañag, Abbigail Tindugan and Amaya Paz during the awarding ceremony of the Meteksan Archery World Cup in Shanghai.

THE PHILIPPINES' COMPOUND WOMEN'S TEAM OF AMAYA PAZ, JENNIFER Chan, Joann Tabañag and Abbigail Tindugan nipped Mexico, 212-210, in its final match to capture the bronze medal in the recent Meteksan Archery World Cup in Shanghai, China.

The Filipino archers knocked out India, 217-216, in the quarterfinals but lost to the United States, 209-216, in the semifinals to set up the meeting with Mexico.

The Americans eventually took the silver after dropping a 218-224 decision to Russia in the finals.

Indonesia, China and Iran also competed in the first-ever World Cup staged by Fita, the world governing body in archery.

Chan placed seventh in the individual competition with 109 points, followed by Paz (105), while Tabañag and Tindugan came in 13th and 24th, respectively.

The RP men's team finished seventh overall, with rookie Enrique Cojuangco Jr. emerging as the best Filipino individual performer at 14th. Earl Benjamin Yap and Karl Francis Achacoso landed 24th and 33rd, respectively.

Only Athens Olympian Jasmin Figueroa of PAC-Magalang/HTMT qualified for the Olympic Round after placing 41st in a field of 69. Rachelle Anne Cabral, Katherine Analyn Santos and Karen Grace Yasi all failed to advance.

But the RP team, aided by a record-breaking performance, managed to finish 13th overall. The RP lady archers scored 196 points in the 4x6 team match finals to surpass the 196 RP mark set by Figueroa, Cabral and Santos in the 2nd Asian Grand Prix in Kuala Lumpur last July 27.

The RP men's recurve team wound up 16th. Mark Javier finished seventh out of 72 with 108 points. Paul Marton dela Cruz and Marvin Cordero occupied the 32nd and 63rd places, respectively, while Christian Cubilla failed to qualify.

Archery president Dr. Lenora Fe S. Brawner headed the RP delegation, which was supported by the Philippine Sports Commission, Pagcor, Architect Oscar Salvacion of Design Coordinated and Philippine Plaza Hotel, HTMT, SM Prime Holdings Inc., Benel Industries, First Asia Realty Development Corp., SM Keppel Land Inc. and Planet Cinema Management Corp.

IM Gonzales settles for 2nd in Mallorca

Final standings: 7.0—IM M. Senff (Germany); 6.5 points—**IM J. Gonzales (RP)**, GM L. Bruzon (Cuba), GM V. Meijers (Latvia), GM S. Krivoshey (Ukraine), IM M. Dutreeuw (Belgium), IM A. Morales (Peru), IM M. Vassalo (Spain), R. Swinkels (Netherlands)

MALLORCA, SPAIN—FILIPINO INTERNATIONAL Master Jayson Gonzales bowed to eventual champion IM Martin Senff of Germany in the final round Sunday to settle for second place in the 19th Es Vermar Chess Open in Mallorca, Spain.

Gonzales needed only a draw to secure the title but missed two drawish lines with the black pieces and surrendered after 61 moves of a Nimzovitch Defense.

"It was quite disappointing because I didn't see two possible draws," Gonzales said.

Senff topped the field with 7 points and received the top purse of 1,200 euros (P86,000).

Gonzales shared second to ninth places with Grandmasters Lazaro Bruzon of Cuba, Viesturs Meijers of Latvia and Sergei Krivoshey of Ukraine, IMs Marc Dutreeuw of Belgium, Arturo Vidarte Morales of Peru and Mauricio Vassalo of Spain and Robert Swinkels of the Netherlands.

Marlon Bernardino, Contributor

Japanese tops RP 9-Ball elims

YUSUUKE KURUDA EMERGED AS THE TOP qualifier in the Philippine 9-Ball Open, clinching the 13th spot in the main draw slated on Oct. 12-14 at Casino Filipino in Parañaque.

The Japanese bet swept through the final leg of the qualifying round at Ever Gotesco, winning 35 racks while dropping only 12.

He is ranked just behind the 12 seeded finalists led by defending champion Francisco "Django" Bustamante.

Interestingly, his opening-round opponent also has Japanese blood—Mike Takayama.

The 18-year-old Takayama, whose mother is a Filipina, is the youngest finalist in the four years of the event. He caught the fancy of local pool followers by beating some of the finest cue artists in the land in the recent national championship.

The first eight spots will be occupied by last year's top finishers while the next four are reserved for invitees Efren "Bata" Reyes, Jose "Amang" Parica, Alex Pagulayan and Marlon Manalo.

The seeding of the four invited players will be determined by the drawing of lots.

Antonio Lining and Lee Vann Corteza are only seeded 21st and 26th after going through the loser's bracket in the qualifying round.

KDJM Stakes races at SLLP Sunday

CARMONA, CAVITE—CLASS A RIDers Jonathan "Uno" Hernandez, Antonio Alcasid Jr. and Fernando Raquel will have a mount in each of the four special races in the Klub Don Juan de Manila Stakes on Sunday at the San Lazaro Leisure Park here.

This is expected to provide a fine sidelight to a busy day of racing which will be highlighted by the fifth running of the KDJM Derby, a P2-million race featuring nine tested runners who will vie for the unofficial all-comers' championship for three-year-olds.

Hernandez, the top jockey last year, pilots Triple Crown leg winner Don Exequiel, a colt from the mighty Hermie Esguerra stables who is expected to carry the fight for the local-born entries. The race is spread over the backbreaking 2,000 meters.

Raquel will steer Hear Me, the Australian-born stayer who will be Don Exequiel's coupled entry, while Alcasid handles Fairy Queen, another import who thrives in long distances.

Hernandez, a hard-driving rider, will also pilot in-form Ever Mine Now in the Golden Girls race, Pacman in the Juvenile Colts' championship and No Fear in the Fillies' race.

Raquel has been tapped to ride Wild Orchid, the versatile Australian-bred mare who won the Derby last year, against Ever Mine Now, Superamerica in the Colts' race and Landed Visa in the Fillies'.

Ocean Deep will be Alcasid's mount in the Golden Girls before the veteran rides Dynamic Duo (Colts'), Lancia Stratos (Fillies') and Fairy Queen in the centrepiece race.

It would be interesting to find out which jockey will dominate on Sunday.

Musong R. Castillo

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By Invitation Only

[illegible]
Who will be the new MEGA Young Designer?

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- **Net group in P5-B** building frenzy /B6

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BUSINESS

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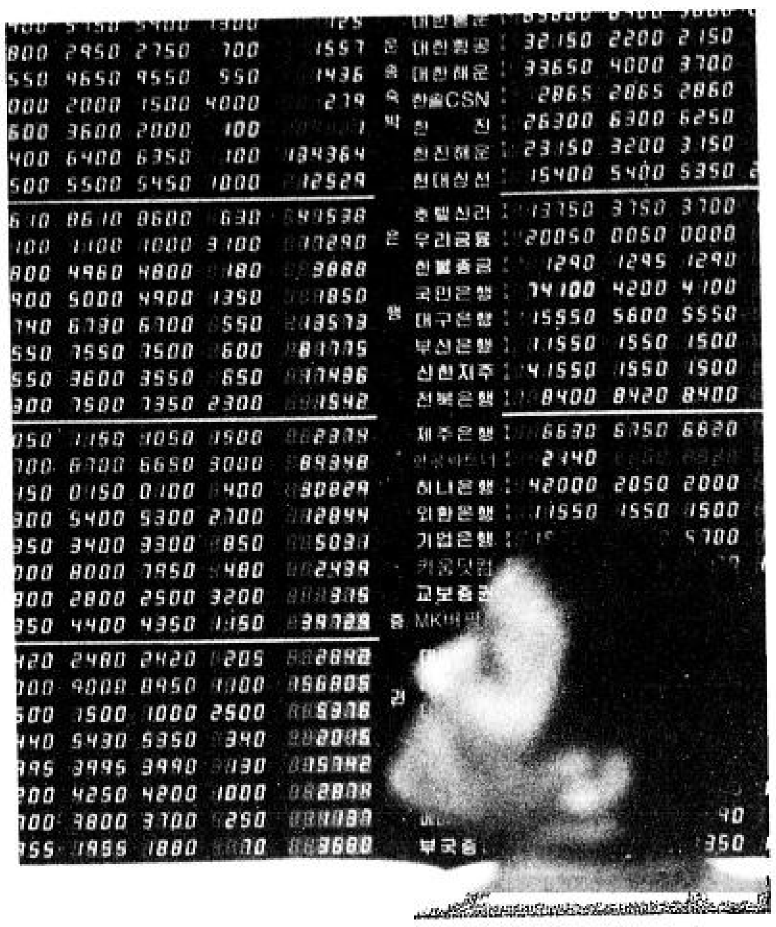
Asian stocks tumble after N. Korea nuke test



A MAN looks at a sign showing the stock price index in Seoul after Asian bourses were rattled by North Korea's underground nuclear test on Monday.

REUTERS

Geopolitical tensions to dictate direction of financial markets

ASIAN STOCKS TUMBLED YESTERDAY AFTER NORTH KOREA defied international pressure and announced it had conducted a nuclear test, realizing the region's worst fears, dealers said.

They said the test sparked concerns over regional security and a likely sharp increase in tensions with investors now anxiously waiting to see what steps Seoul, Washington, Beijing, Tokyo and Moscow might take.

Philippine share prices closed 0.32-percent lower as investors saw an excuse in the North Korean nuclear test to take profits, dealers said.

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index shed 8.30 points at 2,551.92 after trading between 2,549.92 and 2,572.22. Losers led gainers 55 to 28 with 57 unchanged. Turnover was 874.19 million shares worth P3.06 billion.

"Investors were a bit cautious after North Korea's nuclear test," said Mark Alan Canizares of CitisecOnline.

Unlike other bourses in the region which suffered deeper losses, the impact of Pyongyang's announcement on the Philippine market was "muted given our good macroeconomic story," said Canizares.

In South Korea, the Kospi index plunged 2.61 percent but this initial sharp downturn was likely muted—and stocks did come off their early lows—as markets in Japan and Taiwan were closed yesterday for public holidays.

The won also slumped sharply—from 949 Friday to around 963 against the dollar as investors dumped the local currency in reaction to North Korea's announcement that the test was carried out.

Asian currencies were generally lower also as investors sought out the dollar as a traditional safe-haven, with further turbulence expected as the story unfolds.

South Korean financial markets were most at risk, given that technically the country remains at war with North Korea following the 1950-53 war, with Tokyo next in line as most exposed to any shocks.

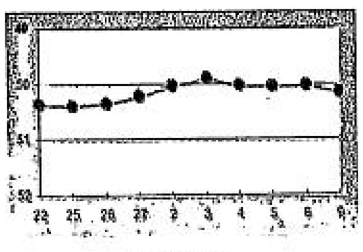
Samsung Securities analyst Oh Hyun-Seok worried in Seoul that the market could go into freefall if the United States were to undertake any military action, even on a small scale.

If "the US hits North Korea militarily," judg-

ASIAN/ B2

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



OCTOBER

PESO-DOLLAR RATE

P 50.14 = $ 1

As of 5 p.m., Oct. 9, 2006

¥ 118.00 = $ 1

As of 5 p.m., Oct. 6, 2006

GOLD: $572.50-573.00

per ounce Hong Kong, Oct. 6, 2006

'Hot money' inflows seen hitting $2.1B

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS expects the recent surge in foreign inflows to local bonds and equities matching by year's end the $2.1 billion in net foreign portfolio investments last year, thus giving more room for the peso to gain against the dollar.

Deputy Governor Diwa Guinigundo of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said the country's rosier economic fundamentals were luring more investors to accumulate peso-denominated assets.

Portfolio inflows—or those invested in stocks, bonds and other bank products, are seen supporting the peso's strength

HOT/ B2

91-day treasury bill rate inches up to 5.473%

By Michelle V. Remo

THE BENCHMARK 91-DAY TREASURY bill rate continued to inch up, contradicting the sustained decline in the yields of the 182- and 364-day bills, as banks chose longer-dated but higher yielding government securities.

"The rates moved sideways to down, which is a normal scenario given the government's fiscal improvements," National Treasurer Omar Cruz told reporters after yesterday's auctions.

The 91-day bills fetched 5.473 percent, up 2.4 basis points from the rate set two weeks ago. It was the third consecutive increase in the rate for the three-month debt paper.

Bids for the 91-day bills hit P3.89 billion, reflecting an oversubscription as the government's debt offering stood at only P2 billion for each maturity.

The rate for the 182-day bills fell by 6.1 basis points to 5.79 percent with bids totaling P5.58 billion.

The 364-day bills fetched 6.713 percent, down 7.8 points from the previous auction. Tenders for the one-year government securities amounted to P6.15 billion.

Cruz said liquidity in the market was supported by the fact that there were P8.5 billion worth of government securities maturing this week.

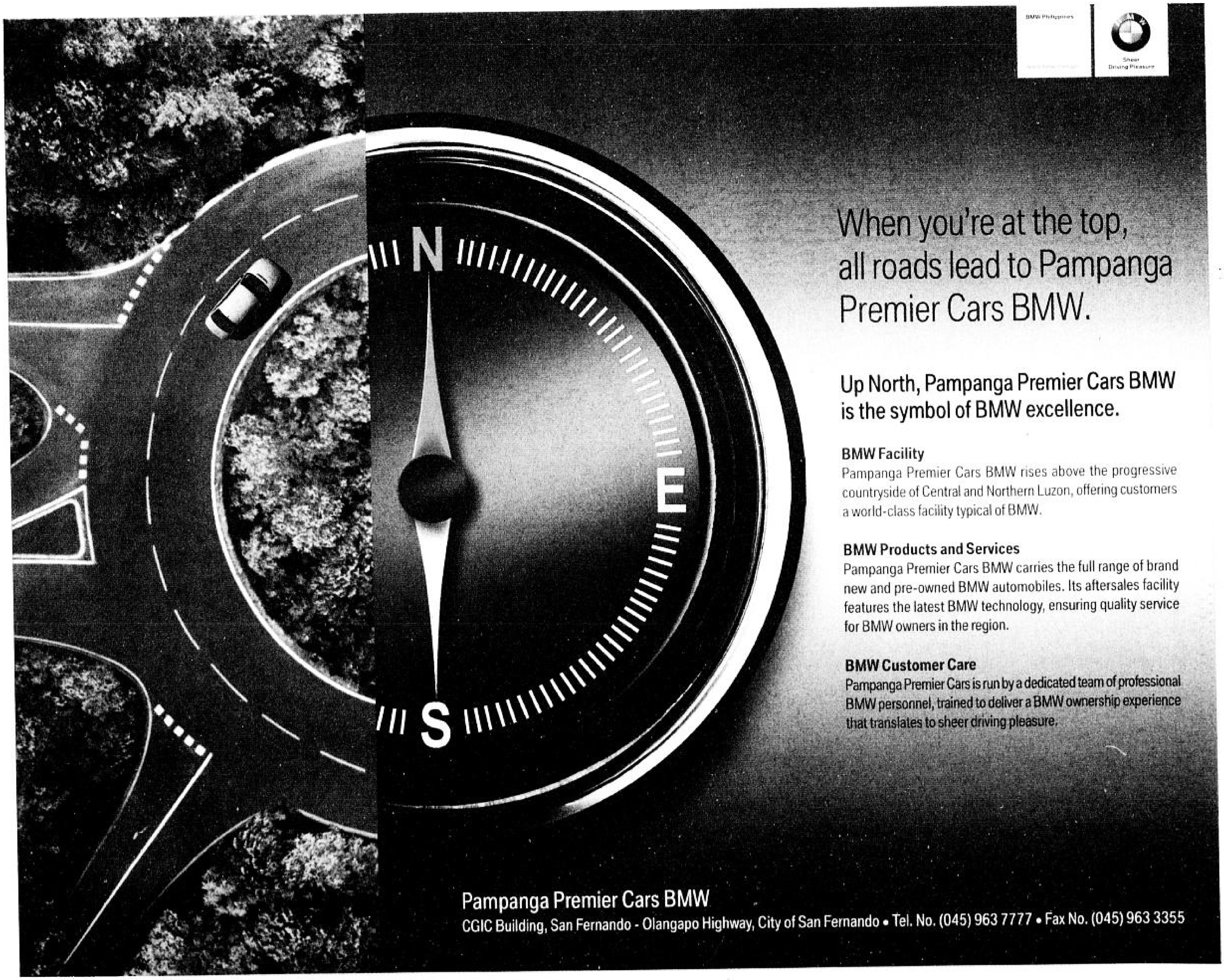
The Bureau of the Treasury's auction committee accepted P6 billion worth of bids, raising in full its borrowing program yesterday.

Cruz said the market was awaiting the full-year picture on inflation, which government economic authorities expected to ease further in the coming months due to a relatively strong peso. A higher peso makes imported goods cheaper in peso terms.

Cruz noted the forecast by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, which said inflation might decelerate to between 4.3 and 4.7 percent next year. Inflation stood at 5.7 percent in September.

The national treasurer also agreed with market opinion that the US Federal Reserve was not inclined to increase interest rates soon due to a slowdown in the US economy.

"I don't think the Fed is ending the pause (in interest rate hike). I take that as a positive development," Cruz said.



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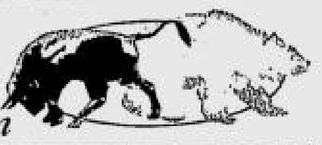
Slowdown on Wall Street

MR. BEARBULL



Ron Nathan

A MAN IS ON THE GOLF COURSE WHEN HE sees a frog sitting on the green. He is about to shoot when he hears the frog say "9 iron, 9 iron." The man looks around but can only see the frog. He decides to prove the frog wrong, puts away his club and takes out a 9 iron. To his amazement, it stops 10 inches from the hole.

"Wow, that's amazing. You must be a lucky frog." The man takes the frog to the next hole and asks the frog which club to use. "3 wood, 3 wood." The guy takes out his 3 wood and gets a hole in one! At the end of the day, he has broken the course record by 5 strokes.

The frog says, "Go to Las Vegas. Go to Las Vegas," so the man complies. "Roulette table, $3000, 6 black." This is a lot of money to bet on such an outside chance but the man slaps $3000 on 6 black. It wins and he picks up over $100,000.

The man takes his winnings to his room and the frog says, "Kiss me. Kiss me." The man feels that he cannot refuse so he kisses the frog and it turns into a gorgeous 15-year old girl.

"And that, your honor, is how the girl ended up in the room of my client."

***

In the United States, economists expected the number of jobs created in September to be about 120,000 so the market was stunned when the Labor Department announced that it was only 51,000.

Initially, the DOW plunged 50 points but recovered most of its loss after the previous month's figure of 128,000 was revised to 188,000.

Overall, job growth over the past year stands at 1.8 million and the unemployment rate improved to 4.6 percent.

Average hourly wages only rose 0.2 percent, less than expected and fairly benign. Manufacturers cut 19,000 jobs as indicated by the ISM index. The retail sector also lost 12,000 jobs as people bought goods on the Internet instead of in the stores.

There is no doubt that the economy is slowing and will probably continue to slow for the next six months, but I doubt whether the United States is heading for a recession.

The dividend season starts today with ALCOA and you can expect a lot of volatility in the next four weeks. If INTEL produces disappointing results, the market collapses: If next day IBM announces good results, the market rebounds.

American investors go from euphoria to depression and back to euphoria, all in two days.

Analysts are expecting the S&P 500 to post its 13th consecutive quarter of earnings growth of at least 10 percent. That does not sound like a recession to me, merely a slowdown.

By the middle of next year, the FED will start reducing interest rates and in that climate, equities will rally so that if the S&P falls, it is likely to be a short term correction rather than a bear market.

Once interest rates fall, I expect the dollar to weaken and commodity prices to recover with gold at the helm because the dollar and gold more in opposite directions.

I doubt if oil will stay below $60 a barrel for long as Opec will follow Nigeria and Venezuela in cutting production, possibly by one million barrels a day. A price of $60 is acceptable to oil-producing countries and also to consumers who have seen it go as high as $78.40.

In the local market, inflation fell to 5.7 percent causing a rally in equities, bonds and the peso. The RLC offer went to a premium and the group of Henry SY now has more than enough EPCI to complete the merger with BDO.

The central bank will probably cut rates on Nov. 2, the President has got her supplementary budget and I have my Skycable restored. All is right with the world and I can watch Bikini Destinations again.

***

Here is an extract from the Telegraph, a reliable widely-read financial newspaper in the United Kingdom: BANKS MAY BE BEHIND PLUNGE IN GOLD PRICE.

Central banks may have dumped far more gold on the market over the last three weeks than officially reported accounting for the sudden plunge in prices that has stunned investors.

Bardays Capital, one of the world's top three bullion traders, said that Europe's banks had sold an extra 100 tons from reserves in a rush to meet the quota deadline on Sept. 26, but had done so by selling through forward contracts that disguised the effect.

"We have been able to infer this from trading patterns. It had a major impact on the market," said the bank's gold expert. "We suspect that the Bank of France has been involved."

The huge sales would help explain gold's brutal fall from $640 an ounce in early September to $559 this week, an effect compounded in recent days by hedge fund liquidation. Gold typically rallies in September in the build up to the Indian marriage season.

The central banks reported sales of just 393 tons of gold for the year, far below the 500 tons annual limit agreed under the Washington Accord and agreement by 15 central banks in Europe.

Barclay said that in reality the group had met the 500-ton limit, with others snapping up the unused quota of the BUNDESBANK which has balked at selling in order to assert its independence against Berlin's politicians.

"We believe this is very bullish for gold because it shows that the sell-off was not driven by investors." The Chairman of the precious metals group GFMS, said that bullion would soon resume its 5-year bull market. "The game is not over for gold. We have still got a big dollar devaluation ahead."

When writing to MERALCO, please do not end your letters with "More power to you."

Apparently, when the typhoon blew down some power lines, they were promptly stolen, as copper is a valuable commodity these days. This is why MERALCO has been unable to restore power in certain areas. Repairs to and replacement of transmission lines is said to have cost the company P500 million.

North Korea conducted an underground nuclear test confirmed by South Korea. This will increase international tension and invite retaliation. Gold rose $6 to $580. *mrbearbull@hotmail.com*

Asian stocks tumble after N. Korea nuke test

From page B1

ing a bottom for the market would be nigh impossible, he said.

In Hong Kong the benchmark slumped 1.23 percent, Singapore fell 1.18 percent and Sydney was down 0.43 percent. Losses were more modest in Jakarta, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur and Mumbai.

"The fear appears to have become a reality and that's really bad news for those holding won-denominated assets, including stocks," Korea Investment Securities analyst Kim Hak-Gyun said.

He said geopolitical tensions were now likely to increase as the world community responds to the news. "Now, you are facing something uncontrollable and politics will dictate the market for a while."

"The main culprit for the sharp drop of the index are reports of North Korea's nuclear test," said Andrew Sullivan, head of sales trading at Daiwa Securities SMBC Hong Kong.

"Nobody knows how this political impasse will fan out or how long it will last and scores of investors used this as an excuse to take profit after recent strong gains in the market," he said. *AFP*

'Hot money' inflows seen hitting $2.1B

From page B1

on top of the boost from the seasonal surge in remittances from overseas Filipino workers during the fourth quarter.

OFW inflows peak during the last three months of the year in time for the Christmas season, the Philippines' longest and most extravagant holiday celebration.

"If the momentum that we're seeing continues, there may be more room for the peso to appreciate," Guinigundo said.

"Macroeconomic fundamentals continue to improve dramatically—the (forex) reserves level, the BOP (balance of payment). Inflation continues to ease, in fact hitting the lower end of our forecast, and the fiscal sector continues to improve," he said.

From the start of the year to Sept. 22, Guinigundo noted that net foreign portfolio inflows had reached $1.19 billion, although lower than the $1.99 billion a year ago.

Strong inflows to the stock market are seen sharply boosting the windfall for the month of September from the $131.5 million in net inflows in August.

"We expect more surges in inflows. For the full year, we might approximate or we might come close to the level that we saw in 2005, which is $2.1 billion (net portfolio inflows), if this momentum continues," Guinigundo said.

Convergys president in Manila

EXECUTIVES OF CONvergys Corp., the world's largest provider of outsourced customer care services, led by Convergys president and COO David F. Dougherty, arrived yesterday in Manila for the dedication of the company's Philippine headquarters tomorrow.

Dougherty is a 15-year veteran of the Ohio-based Convergys Corp.

He is responsible for all of the company's core businesses which include Customer Care and Information Management.

Convergys' new Philippine headquarters is in Convergys One along Ayala Avenue.

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NOVEMBER 14 - 16, 2006

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

There is a pressing need in the corporate sector to instill an entrepreneurial spirit before it gives in to a rigid culture which discourages enterprise-building among its employees. Employees from the top of the ladder to the bottom should feel a personal stake in the company, such that they would be willing to devote internal resources of time, effort, and creativity to improve corporate performance.

This entrepreneurial leadership course is designed for owner-entrepreneurs, company founders, company board officers, and top management people who would like to imbue in their people the entrepreneurial spirit and build an entrepreneurial organization.

The course will benefit the corporation in terms of providing a unified purpose to its employees and management - that of moving in the positive direction of enterprise-building.

COURSE CONTENT

DAY 1
- What is Corporate Entrepreneurship
- Managing Change Towards Corporate Entrepreneurship
- Corporate Entrepreneur as Innovator and Change Master
- Creation of New Paradigms and Processes
- Development of New Products and Ideas

DAY 2
- Strategy and Organization Development
- Strategy Formulation and Formation
- Building the Entrepreneurial Organization
- Understanding Entrepreneurial Partnership
- Installing Systems that Drive Entrepreneurial Performance

DAY 3
- Inspirational and Transformational Leadership
- Understanding Entrepreneurial Clans
- Confronting Founders' Dilemma
- Managing Corporate Transformation
- Institutionalizing Corporate Entrepreneurship

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PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of October 9, 2006)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
FINANCIAL					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.7	19,000
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	41.5	41.5	41	41.5	1,843,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	58.5	59.5	58	58	538,700
China Banking Corp.	640	640	630	630	3,290
Citystate Savings Bank	20.5	20.5	20.5	20.5	300
Export and Ind. Bank A	0.42	0.42	0.4	0.41	5,540,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	66.5	66.5	66	66	7,864,400
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	42	42	41	42	622,400
Philippine National Bank	34	34	34	34	12,000
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	27,500
Security Bank Corp.	52.5	54	52.5	53.5	196,400
Union Bank of the Phil.	45	45	45	45	400
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
Citiseconline Com Inc.	5	5	4.65	4.8	2,135,000
Filipino Fund Inc.	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	10,000
First Metro Invest. Corp.	30.5	30.5	30.5	30.5	5,000
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	20,000
Sun Life Financial Inc.	1985	1985	1985	1985	100
Ivantage Corp.	1.42	1.42	1.42	1.42	673,000
INDUSTRIAL					
ELECTRICITY, ENERGY, POWER & WATER					
First Gen Corp.	50.5	50.5	50.5	50.5	504,400
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	51	51.5	51	51.5	418,600
Manila Electric Co. A	21.25	21.75	21.25	21.75	333,300
Manila Electric Co. B	30	31	30	30.5	561,200
Manila Water Co. Inc.	8.9	8.9	8.8	8.9	4,221,000
Petron Corp.	4.05	4.1	4.05	4.05	2,566,000
FOOD, BEVERAGE & TOBACCO					
CADP Group Corp.	2.38	2.38	2.38	2.38	2,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	22.75	22.75	22.75	22.75	30,100
Jollibee Foods Corp.	37.5	37.5	37	37.5	198,200
Pancake House Inc.	4.95	4.95	4.95	4.95	3,000
RFM Corp.	0.9	0.9	0.89	0.89	570,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55	199,000
San Miguel Corp. A	65	65.5	65	65.5	33,400
San Miguel Corp. B	76.5	76.5	76	76.5	206,600
Universal Robina Corp.	19.5	19.75	19.25	19.25	885,300
CONSTRUCTION, INFRASTRUCTURE & ALLIED SERVICES					
Southeast Asian Cement	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	20,000
Engineering Equip. Inc.	2	2	1.98	1.98	670,000
Holcim Philippines Inc.	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	1,555,000
Republic Cement Corp.	1.66	1.68	1.64	1.64	219,000
CHEMICALS					
Corro-Coat Inc.	4.8	4.9	4.75	4.75	706,000
Euro-Med Lab. Phil. Inc.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	14,000
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS					
Global Equities Inc.	0.61	0.62	0.59	0.6	23,070,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.145	0.145	0.135	0.14	3,550,000
Panasonic Mfg Phil Corp.	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	25,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	25,000,000
Ayala Corp.	485	495	485	492.5	70,240
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.52	0.52	0.52	0.52	30,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	5.6	5.9	5.6	5.6	1,555,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.026	0.026	0.026	0.026	10,000,000
A. Soriano Corp.	2.2	2.26	2.2	2.26	695,000
APC Group Inc.	0.235	0.235	0.235	0.235	1,450,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008	35,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.92	0.92	0.91	0.91	2,880,000
Baguio Gold Holdings Corp.	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	27,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	10,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1.32	1.38	1.32	1.36	12,647,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	4.15	4.15	4.15	4.15	65,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	2.75	2.75	2.65	2.65	1,255,000
House Of Investments Inc.	1.26	1.26	1.26	1.26	40,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	6.8	7	6.8	7	2,239,000
Keppel Holdings B	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	1.56	1.64	1.44	1.46	3,700,000
Pacifica	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	6,100,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185	100,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	550,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	7,530,000
SM Investments Corp.	257.5	257.5	255	257.5	695,200
South China Resources Inc.	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	150,000
Seafront Resources Corp.	1.3	1.3	1.28	1.28	105,000
Unioil Res. & Holdings Co.	0.105	0.105	0.1	0.1	200,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	300,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	14	14.25	13.75	13.75	6,482,200
Belle Corp.	1.02	1.04	1.02	1.04	4,459,000
A Brown Company Inc.	1.02	1.04	1.02	1.02	44,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.36	0.36	0.32	0.32	60,000
Cebu Holdings Inc	3.05	3.05	3	3	481,000
C & P Homes Inc.	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.36	89,000
Cebu Prop. Vent. A	1.54	1.54	1.54	1.54	20,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.54	0.54	0.53	0.54	9,030,000
Edsa Prop. Holdings Inc.	1.28	1.28	1.22	1.22	550,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	4,800,000
Filinvest Land Inc	1.68	1.68	1.64	1.64	6,000,000
Interport Res.	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	2,000,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.31	0.31	0.3	0.3	2,750,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.74	0.74	0.72	0.73	230,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. A	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	5,000,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. B	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.018	2,000,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.92	1.92	1.86	1.88	23,781,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	3.3	3.4	3.25	3.25	425,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.25	0.27	0.25	0.27	20,000
Philippine Estates Corp.	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	160,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	13.5	13.5	13.25	13.5	1,869,200
Phil Realty and Holdings	0.39	0.39	0.38	0.38	5,100,000
SM Development Corp.	1.84	1.86	1.84	1.86	86,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	8.6	8.7	8.5	8.5	3,813,000
Suntrust Home Dev. Inc.	0.57	0.57	0.56	0.56	360,000
SERVICE					
MEDIA					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	18	18	17	18	72,400
TELECOMMUNICATIONS					
Information Capital Tech.	4.8	4.8	4.5	4.5	56,000
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	1.42	1.48	1.4	1.42	24,690,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	1145	1150	1145	1145	90,970
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	4.75	4.75	4.55	4.55	8,156,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	2190	2210	2175	2200	639,940
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY					
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	250,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.055	0.0575	0.055	0.0575	1,400,000
Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.16	38,000
Philweb Corp.	0.03	0.031	0.03	0.031	35,900,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	3.65	3.7	3.65	3.7	515,000
Aboitiz Trans. Sys. Corp.	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.16	35,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	18.5	18.5	18.5	18.5	1,675,200
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.97	1	0.96	0.97	640,000
HOTEL & LEISURE					
Acesite Phils Hotel Corp.	5	5	5	5	919,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	1.98	2	1.98	2	767,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	800,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.43	0.46	0.43	0.45	8,840,000
EDUCATION					
Centro Escolar University	8.6	8.7	8.6	8.7	6,000
Far Eastern University	850	850	850	850	170
DIVERSIFIED SERVICES					
Macroasia Corp.	2	2	1.98	1.98	728,000
Paxys Inc.	11.75	12	11.75	12	305,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc A	5.9	6.4	5.9	6.2	4,097,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc. B	6	6.4	6	6.3	1,101,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	55,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	7.9	8	7.9	7.9	245,000
Benguet Corp. A	9.5	9.6	9.5	9.6	4,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.235	0.24	0.235	0.235	1,230,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co. B	0.28	0.28	0.27	0.27	3,150,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.021	228,500,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	112,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.0095	0.01	0.0095	0.01	106,000,000
Philex Mining Corp.	3.65	3.75	3.65	3.7	2,108,000
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	40,000
OIL					
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.28	0.29	0.28	0.29	280,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	10,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	10,300,000
The Philodrill Corp. B	0.97	0.97	0.96	0.97	170,000
Petroenergy Res. Corp.	9.2	9.4	9.2	9.2	19,000
PREFERRED					
PLDT (10% Pref) Series P	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series R	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,300
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	3,300
PLDT 10% Pref Series Bb	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	1,900
WARRANTS, PHIL. DEPOSIT RECEIPTS, ETC.					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (PDR)	18.25	18.25	18.25	18.25	527,000

CURRENCIES

October 9, 2006 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.793714	1.000000	50.0050
Japan	Yen	0.006669	0.008402	0.4201
United Kingdom	Pound	1.485277	1.871300	93.5744
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.101960	0.128459	6.4236
Switzerland	Franc	0.629732	0.793399	39.6739
Canada	Dollar	0.704896	0.888099	44.4094
Singapore	Dollar	0.499725	0.629604	31.4833
Australia	Dollar	0.589552	0.742776	37.1425
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.105509	2.652731	132.6498
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.211657	0.266667	13.3347
Brunei	Dollar	0.498157	0.627628	31.3845
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000087	0.000109	0.0055
Thailand	Baht	0.021149	0.026645	1.3324
UAE	Dirham	0.216112	0.272279	13.6153
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.259900	63.0013
Argentina	Peso	0.255624	0.322061	16.1047
Brazil	Real	0.367154	0.462577	23.1312
Denmark	Kroner	0.134153	0.169019	8.4518
India	Rupee	0.017471	0.022012	1.1007
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.215332	0.271297	13.5662
Mexico	New Peso	0.071726	0.090367	4.5188
New Zealand	Dollar	0.522111	0.657808	32.8937
Norway	Kroner	0.118827	0.149710	7.4862
Pakistan	Rupee	0.013111	0.016518	0.8260
South Africa	Rand	0.101342	0.127681	6.3847
Korea	Won	0.000837	0.001054	0.0527
Sweden	Kroner	0.107724	0.135722	6.7868
Syria	Pound	0.015290	0.019264	0.9633
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.023991	0.030226	1.5115
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000370	0.000466	0.0233

FDC warns of water monopoly

By Norman Bordadora

THE FREEDOM FROM DEBT COALITION yesterday warned of a possible monopoly in water distribution in Metro Manila.

FDC aired the warning after Manila Water Corp., the Ayala-controlled firm serving the metro's east zone, was allowed to join the bidding for the west zone, which used to be served by the Lopez group's Maynilad Water Services Inc.

FDC president Ana Maria Nemenzo said it would be a "dire development" if Manila Water manages to clinch the deal.

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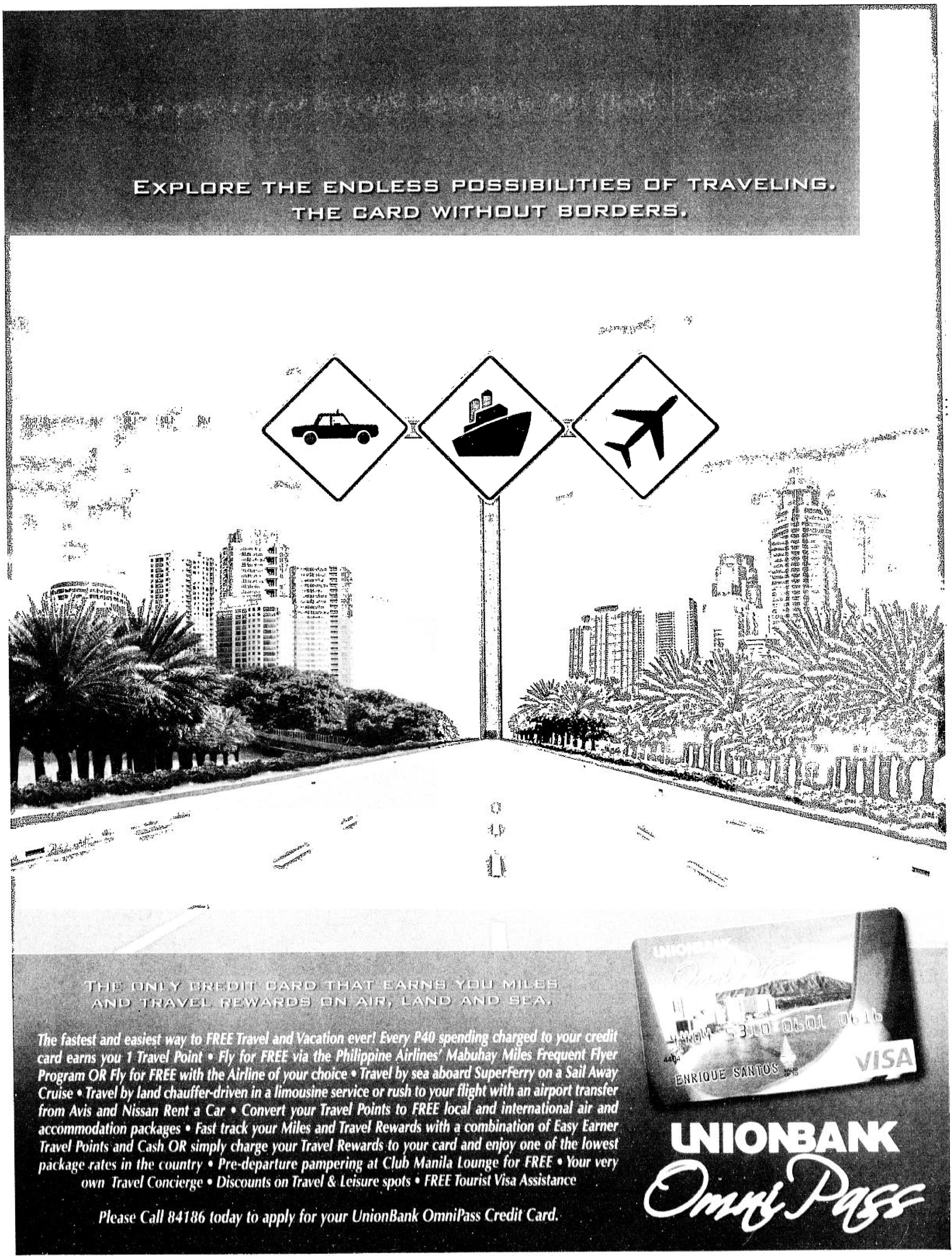
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NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY

Philsugin Bldg., North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (BAC) SECRETARIAT OFFICE
Tel. No. (632) 455-2758 Email: vsvillarama@nfa.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Supply and Delivery of one (1) unit Vacuum Can Double Seamer

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA)*, through its *2006 Corporate Operating Budget* intends to apply the sum of *P2,081,000.00* being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for *supply and delivery of one (1) unit Vacuum Can Double Seamer.* Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.

The *NFA* now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the *supply and delivery of one (1) unit Vacuum Can Double Seamer.* Delivery is required within 60 calendar days from receipt of notarized contract. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, **Instruction to Bidders (ITB).**

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.

Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the *NFA-BAC SECRETARIAT* and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from *8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.*

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of P5,000.00 in the form of *CASH*. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY* will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on *October 23, 2006 at 9:00 a.m.* at the *NFA Board Room, 6th floor, Philsugin Bldg., North Avenue, Quezon City.*

Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered at the *NFA Board Room, 6th floor, Philsugin Bldg., North Avenue, Quezon City* on November 7, 2006 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. Late Bids shall not be accepted. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in the following form and amount.

Form of Security	Required Amount in Percent of ABC
Cash, cashier's Check, Manager's Check, Bank draft or Irrevocable Letter of Credit	One Percent (1%)
Bank Guarantee	One and a half percent (1.5%)
Surety Bond stamped "Callable on Demand" on the face of the Bond issued by GSIS	Two and a half percent (2.5%)
Any combination of the above	Proportionate to share

Bid opening shall be on *November 7, 2006 at 9:00 a.m.* at the *NFA Board Room, 6th floor, Philsugin Bldg., North Avenue, Quezon City.* Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives.

The *NFA* reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Procuring Entity - *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY*
Contact Person - *Jose D. Chua / Violeta S. Villarama*
Address - *Philsugin Bldg., North Ave., Diliman, Quezon City*
Telephone/Fax No. - *(632) 455-2758*
e-mail address - *vsvillarama@nfa.gov.ph*
Website - *www.nfa.gov.ph*

(Sgd.) **PEDRO S. HERNANDO, JR.**
Deputy Administrator and BAC Chair
for Administration and General Support Services

(PDI - Oct. 3 & 10, 2006)

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY

Philsugin Bldg., North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (BAC) SECRETARIAT OFFICE
Tel. No. (632) 455-2758 Email: vsvillarama@nfa.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Supply and Delivery of various Laboratory Equipment

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA)*, through its *2006 Corporate Operating Budget* intends to apply the sum of *P4,815,000.00* being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for *supply and delivery of various Laboratory and Power Plant Equipment*, as follows:

Item No.	Particulars	No. of Units	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)
1	ATP Luminometer with Accessory	1	200,000.00
2	Capillary Gas Chromatograph and Accessories	1	2,000,000.00
3	Rapid Soxhlet Fat Extractor	1	1,000,000.00
4	Portable Ductless Fumehood	1	345,000.00
5	Continuous-Feed Grinding Drive and Head	1	258,000.00
6	Stainless Steel Digital Top Loading Balance	5	375,000.00
7	Micropipettors, 500-2500ul, 2 ul increments	4	160,000.00
8	Multichannel pipiettor	1	75,000.00
9	Chlorine Test Kit with DPD Reagent	1	25,000.00
10	Chlorine Meter	1	60,000.00
11	Light Meter	1	15,000.00
12	Type T Handheld Thermocouple Thermometer	2	50,000.00
13	General Purpose Steel Reversible Tray Cart	1	22,000.00
14	Digital Refractometer	1	35,000.00
15	Label Printer	1	35,000.00
16	Four-in-One Stirring Hot Plate	1	125,000.00
17	Magnetic Hot Plate Stirrer	1	35,000.00
	TOTAL		4,815,000.00

Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening

The *NFA* now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the *supply and delivery of various Laboratory and Power Plant Equipment.* Delivery is required within 60 calendar days from receipt of notarized contract. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, **Instruction to Bidders (ITB).**

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligiblity check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.

Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the *NFA-BAC SECRETARIAT* and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from *8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.*

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of P7,500.00 in the form of *CASH*. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY* will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on *October 23, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.* at the *NFA Board Room, 6th floor, Philsugin Bldg., North Avenue, Quezon City.*

Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered at the *NFA Board Room, 6th floor, Philsugin Bldg., North Avenue, Quezon City* on November 7, 2006 from 1:00 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.. Late Bids shall not be accepted. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in the following form and amount.

Form of Security	Required Amount in Percent of ABC
Cash, cashier's Check, Manager's Check, Bank draft or Irrevocable Letter of Credit	One Percent (1%)
Bank Guarantee	One and a half percent (1.5%)
Surety Bond stamped "Callable on Demand" on the face of the Bond issued by GSIS	Two and a half percent (2.5%)
Any combination of the above	Proportionate to share

Bid opening shall be on *November 7, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.* at the *NFA Board Room, 6th floor, Philsugin Bldg., North Avenue, Quezon City.* Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives.

The *NFA* reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Procuring Entity *NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY*
Contact Person *Jose D. Chua / Violeta S. Villarama*
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Website *www.nfa.gov.ph*

(Sgd.) **PEDRO S. HERNANDO, JR.**
Deputy Administrator and BAC Chair
for Administration and General Support Services

(PDI - Oct. 3 & 10, 2006)

POEA 24-HR HOTLINES 722-1144 • 722-1155

Republic of the Philippines
CAMARINES SUR STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur
Telefax No. (054) 477-33-41

NOTICE OF SEARCH & CALL FOR APPLICATION

The Board of Trustees formally and publicly announces that the **Search for the Presidency** of Camarines Sur State Agricultural College is now OPEN.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Filipino citizen;
- Preferably holder of an EARNED doctorate degree in any academic field relevant to the mission and mandate of the College;
- Must have five (5) years relevant managerial and administrative experience;
- Recognized leadership in his/her profession;
- Morally upright and never been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude; and
- Preferably not more than sixty (60) years old at the time of the application.

Documents Required – (Six (6) Copies):

- Letter of intention/application
- Detailed Curriculum Vitae and all supporting documents
- Proposed vision, mission and thrust for the College/ University
- Clearances from Police, NBI, Ombudsman, Sandiganbayan and Civil Service Commission
- Full disclosure of all administrative, criminal and/or civil cases filed.

Medical certificate and result of neuro-psychiatric examination shall be asked from the final candidates who will be recommended to the CSSAC Board of Trustees.

Applications are requested to be submitted on or before November 10, 2006 to:

Dr. Patricio S. Faylon
Executive Director
Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development
Los Baños, Laguna

or

Mr. Gilberto D. Aguilar
Board Secretary V
Camarines Sur State Agricultural College
San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur

PNOC-ENERGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Energy Complex, Merritt Road
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City
Tel. No. 893-1320. Local 5389

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND BID

The PNOC-Energy Development Corporation is inviting all interested suppliers to apply and submit sealed bids for the supply and delivery of the following:

Lotus Notes Collaboration New License/Renewal & Project 4 Domino under CK-602171
Approved Budget: PHP 3,121,000.00

Eligibility forms and bidding documents shall be available for issuance at the above address c/o **Mr. Winthrop Z. Gutierrez starting October 04, 2006** from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P400.00 per document.

For purposes of clarifying certain matters, a pre-bidding conference shall be held on **October 12, 2006, 2:00 p.m.** at the above address.

Applications for eligibility and sealed bids shall be submitted to, and registered with the PNOC-EDC Supply Management Department, Ground Floor, Building 5 at the above address, and thereafter dropped in the padlocked bid box thereat not later than **2:00 p.m. (Supply Management Department Office Wall Clock Time) of October 27, 2006**. Public opening of bids shall follow immediately thereafter. **Late bids shall not be accepted.**

Prospective bidders shall signify conformance to the bidding terms and conditions, as required, and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution. Source of funding is from Internal Cash Generation of PNOC-EDC. All bids should be within the Approved Budget for the Contract in order to qualify.

PNOC-Energy Development Corporation reserves the right to annul the bidding process, to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in the bids received and to accept such bid which is most advantageous to PNOC-EDC without thereby incurring liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the ground(s) for PNOC-EDC's action.

FRANCIS M. DOLOR
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee I

(PDI–Oct. 10, 2006)

PNOC-ENERGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Energy Complex, Merritt Road
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City
Tel. No. 893-1320. Local 5389

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND BID

The PNOC-Energy Development Corporation is inviting all interested suppliers to apply and submit sealed bids for the supply and delivery of the following:

2,100 pieces Stainless Steel Wristwatches under PR 602926
Approved Budget: PHP 2,100,000.00

Eligibility forms and bidding documents shall be available for issuance at the above address c/o **Mr. Winthrop Z. Gutierrez starting October 04, 2006** from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P400.00 per document.

For purposes of clarifying certain matters, a pre-bidding conference shall be held on **October 11, 2006, 2:00 p.m.** at the above address.

Applications for eligibility and sealed bids shall be submitted to, and registered with the PNOC-EDC Supply Management Department, Ground Floor, Building 5 at the above address, and thereafter dropped in the padlocked bid box thereat not later than **2:00 p.m. (Supply Management Department Office Wall Clock Time) of October 25, 2006**. Public opening of bids shall follow immediately thereafter. **Late bids shall not be accepted.**

Prospective bidders shall signify conformance to the bidding terms and conditions, as required, and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution. Source of funding is from Internal Cash Generation of PNOC-EDC. All bids should be within the Approved Budget for the Contract in order to qualify.

PNOC-Energy Development Corporation reserves the right to annul the bidding process, to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in the bids received and to accept such bid which is most advantageous to PNOC-EDC without thereby incurring liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the ground(s) for PNOC-EDC's action.

FELICITO A. GESITE
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee II

(PDI–Oct. 10, 2006)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
National Capital Region
DY Int'l Bldg., 1650 San Marcelino
cor. General Malvar St., Malate, Manila

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION/S FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT/S (AEP/S)

Notice is hereby given that the following companies/employers have filed with this Regional Office application/s for Alien Employment Permit/s:

Name and address of Company/Employer	Name of Foreign National	Position
TAS PLAN INC. 23/F Equitable Bank Tower Paseo de Roxas, Salcedo Village Makati	Tomoyasu Ku	Manager of Shop Drawing
MAYJEN GARMENTS TRADING 4414 Bayview Drive Tambo, Parañaque City	Amandeep Kaur	Manager
GE MONEY SERVICING – PHILIPPINES, INC. Plaza A, Northgate Cyberzon Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang Muntinlupa City	Rupaparna Sarkar	Human Resources Generalist Stir
JOOHEE AGAPE TRADING INC. 204 Balagtas Villas, Balagtas St. Pasay City	Sung Un Hong (w/o Kim)	General Manager
ALFA WAN TAI INC. 2407 T. Mapua St., cor. Blumentritt Manila	Minghan Sun	Consultant
INTERNATIONAL ACCESS SUPPORT PHILIPPINES CORP. U-B 24/F Trafalgar Plaza 105 H.V. dela Costa St., Bel-Air Makati City	Koji Takizawa	Company Accountant
KS MYUNGSUNG INT'L. CORP. 633 Remedios St., Malate, Manila	Jung Eun Kang	Therapist
KAYA TRAVEL & TOURS INC. 2/F 1710 Donada St., Pasay City	Joonghee Yoon	General Manager
KMBK TRAVEL & TOURS Unit 1208, 12/F Taipan Plaza Bldg. Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center Pasig City	Mayumi Inagaki	Marketing Head
IN THE GRADE SCHOOL, INC. 647 P. Paterno St., Quiapo, Manila	David M. Larkin	Assistant to the Manager
ALFA WAN TAI INC.. 2407 T. Mapua St. cor. Blumentritt Manila	Yonghe Lin	General Manager
YOUNG GALAXY RESIDENCE INN & RESTAURANT, INC. 558 General Malvar St., Malate Manila	Sang Sik Lee	Music Manager
PEPSI-COLA PRODUCTS PHILIPPINES, INC. Km. 29, National Road, Brgy. Tunasan, Muntinlupa City	Partha Chakrabarti	Sr. Vice President/ Chief Financial Officer

If you have any information/objection to the abovementioned application/s please communicate with the Regional Director.

f:
LOURDES M. TRASMONTE
Regional Director

(PDI–Oct. 10, 2006)

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OBITUARIES

IN LOVING MEMORY
ON THE
20th DEATH ANNIVERSARY
OF

ATTY. JORGE A. DOLORFINO

July 27, 1919 – October 12, 1986

Holy Masses will be offered on Thursday, October 12, 2006 at the following churches:

Our Lady of Assumption Parish, Maragondon, Cavite	6:00 AM
St. Martin de Porres Parish, United Hills Village, Parañaque	6:00 AM
Presentation of the Child Jesus Parish, BF Homes, Parañaque	6:45 AM
St. Joseph the Worker, Palanan, Makati	7:00 AM

Atty. Rafael "Raffy" Favis

of Baguio City

Died in the peace of the Lord
on October 05, 2006 at the age of 51
in St. Luke's Hospital.

His beloved wife **Milette**; children **Mara, Noelle, Milkee** and **Renzo**, mother **Corazon**, brothers, sisters-in-law, relatives and friends are requesting for your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Baguio Memorial Chapel, Naguilian Road, Baguio City.

There will be a 10:30 a.m. Mass at Lourdes Church, Kisad Road, Baguio City.

Cremation will follow at Beyond the Sunset Crematory, Irisan, on Wednesday, October 11, 2006.

"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring...

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:

❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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G/F Trinity Bldg., 636 T.M. Kalaw St., Manila
5273342 • 5280183 • 5276357 • Fax 5280213

PATERNA OLAIVAR-MARAPAO

Peacefully joined our Creator
on 05 October 2006 at the age of 75.

Her husband **Atty. Nunilo D. Marapao Sr.** (†); **children**: Ma. Monalisa and Lucky (†), Nunilo Jr. and Olive, Clemente and Celina, Hilarion and Maribel, Leonilo Pio, Gerard and Marylis, Ma. Luisa and Neptali; **grandchildren**: Alarice Christine, Ma. Katrina, Rica, Colin, Chino, Tim, Jack, Tia, Rina, Christine, Margaret, Rion, Matthew, Philippa, Jason, Ann, Vanessa, request the readers to join them in praying for her eternal happiness in heaven.

Her body lies in state at Divine Shepherd Memorial Chapels, Bulua, Cagayan de Oro City.

Interment will be today, 10 October 2006 at Divine Shepherd Memorial Gardens, Bulua, Cagayan de Oro City. Burial Mass will be at 9:00 a.m.

I am
the way,
the truth
and
the life.
No one
comes
to the
Father
except
through
Me.

John 14:6

The Lord is my Shepherd…

Ma. Luisa Gaerlan Orendain

October 11, 1920 -- October 8, 2006

Her loving family give thanks for her gift of great laughter and music
She, the fearless freedom fighter
We commend her spirit to heaven

Her children and grandchildren
Joan – TJ and Lucky
Jane
Mac
  Cita – Nicole and Simone
  Lina – Tonton / Jeyan and Dehlma / Mike
Dolly and Joe – Jolly, Joy, Marla and Carla
Chippy and Margot – Iskra, Pao and Alekos

Her great-grandchildren **Gabriel, Hana, Quincy, Nina, Kulas, Maimai, Chappy, Martina, Marty, Justis, Zoe, Nana and Miggy**

Her body lies in state at the Malate Church Mortuary in Manila. Interment will be at Loyola Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque after the 8:00 a.m Mass on Friday, October 13.

Prof. MARINO M. MENA

(Former Dean, College of Engineering, UP, Diliman, Quezon City)

His bereaved sisters, sister-in-law and brother-in-law **Severino** (†) and **Caridad** (†), **Virgilio** and **Dolores**, **Belen** and **Violeta**; his bereaved nieces and nephew: **Alex** and **Rosario Pascua**, **Jay-jay** and **Kristine Ocampo**, **Miguela**, **Rea** and **Rodel**; his grandchildren: **JR**, **Abby**, **Jipee**, **Kay**, **Kat-kat**, **Nicky** and **Zac**.

His remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will follow at North Cemetery on Saturday, October 14, 2006 immediately after Mass at 9:00 a.m.

More Classified Ads:

Province of Bukidnon
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Province of Oriental Negros
Page B6

ALFREDO C. YABUT, SR.

January 5, 1927 – October 9, 2006

Joined in the Grace of our Lord
on October 9, 2006 at the age of 79.

He is survived by his wife, **Carmen**; children **Choy & Annie**, **Joland & Naydin**, **Edmond & Jocar**, **Butch & Alma**, **Andrew & Gila**, **Chito & Mary Ann**, and **Mathet & Geofry**, grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Yabut Compound, Oringo, General Santos City, South Cotabato.

Interment will be on Saturday, Oct. 14, 2006 at San Carlos Cemetery.

Our Dearly Beloved

Jaime A. San Juan

October 16, 1951 – October 11, 1991

On his 15th feast day we treasure all the beautiful memories as a wonderful husband to Luz Uy San Juan and as an excellent father to Jamaica San Juan Esparas and son-in-law Ruel M. Esparas, Jussein San Juan and daughter-in-law Vanessa S. San Juan. His grandchildren Jaime Luz, Jameson, Jaime Florentino, Jamie Luz San Juan and Jasmine Lui San Juan.

We request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul to the following:

St. Peter & St. Paul Catholic Community	9135 Banyan St., Alta Loma CA	7:30 am
St. Francis of Assisi Church, National Shrine of St. Anthony	135 W. 31st St., New York, New York 10001	11:30 am
St. Thomas Aquinas Parish	4234 Sto. Tomas, Batangas	6:00 am
Church of St. John the Evangelist	Tanauan City, Batangas	5:15 am
Immaculate Conception Parish	Malvar, Batangas	6:00 am
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Mary Mediatrix of All Grace	Lipa City	6:00 am
Parish of St. Sebastian	Lipa City	7:00 am
Basilica of the Immaculate Conception	4200 Batangas City	5:30 am
St. Martin of Tours Parish	G. Marella St., Taal, Batangas	7:00 am
Adoration Convent of Divine Mercy	Holy Spirit Drive, Brgy. Mailim, 2nd East 4120 Tagaytay City	6:30 am
Parish of St. James the Great	Ayala Alabang Village, Muntinlupa City	6:20 am
St. John Bosco Parish	Arnaiz St., Makati, M.M.	6:30 am
Santuario de San Antonio	McKinley Rd., Forbes Park, Makati	6:15 am
Our Lady of Edsa	Edsa cor. Ortigas Ave., Quezon City	6:30 am
Immaculate Conception Parish Antipolo Cathedral	P. Oliveros St., Antipolo City	6:00 am

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"...absent from the body to be present with the Lord."
Matthew 10:39

LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.

Tel. Nos. Q.C. - 712-3001 •743-6502; Manila - 711-6931 to 35

NAME OF DECEASED	PLACE OF VIEWING	INTERMENT/CREMATION	
		DATE & TIME	PLACE
Haydee Lissa Kho Capati	Chapel 6	October 12, 2006 9:00 AM	La Loma Caloocan
Ernesto Chiong	Chapel - C	October 10, 2006 10:00 AM	La Loma Caloocan

BUSINESS

Net group in ₱5-B building frenzy

Firm rushes BPO establishments to meet rising demand

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

THE NET GROUP, ONE OF THE COUNtry's biggest developers catering to business process outsourcing (BPO) firms, will sink in roughly P5 billion for BPO building projects at Fort Bonifacio Global City to meet growing demand.

The investment includes current and future tenant improvements and development costs for three BPO buildings "Net Square," "Net Cube," and "Net Quad" at the Global City, in Taguig, Net Group director Carlos S. Rufino said during the recently concluded forum on Philippine Real Estate Investment Trust.

Net Square, which was completed in July 2006, has 22 floors with a total of 18,000 square meters of leasable space. Net Square was fully leased six months before it was completed.

Net Square trails Net 1, the group's flagship BPO development completed in 2001, which offered 14,500 square meters of total leasable area to investors.

Major tenants of Net 1 and Net Square are: Sony Ericsson, Quisumbing Torres Law office, which is the local partner of global law firm Baker & McKenzie, WeServ, which is the BPO arm of Fujitsu, and Digital Media Exchange, which publishes and distributes multiplayer online games through its computer game publishing division Mobius.ph.

This year, construction has begun on the 23-storey "Net Cube" building, which will offer total leasable space of 19,200 square meters. Net Cube will be completed in August next year.

By the end of 2006, construction will start on "Net Quad," a 15-level "double building" which will offer the largest leasable area at 28,800 square meters.

Including its flagship Net 1, the Net Group's total projected investment in BPO buildings in Fort Bonifacio is estimated at P6 billion.

"We feel we're in the right place, and we are putting our money where our mouth is," Net Group chair Jacques Dupasquier yesterday said in a phone interview. "We are building quickly to meet increasing demand for our buildings."

Data from the Board of Investments indicated that BPO workers are expected to grow to 200,000 workers by the end of 2006, and may swell to up to 1 million workers by 2010.

The Net Group is owned jointly by the Rufino and Dupasquier families.

"2007 is a good year to finish up BPOs because the supply has not caught up with the demand, so there is a premium on anything that can be finished next year," Rufino said.

Among the Philippine companies that have heavily invested in BPO projects are Megaworld Corp., with its pioneer project Eastwood City in Libis; Ayala Land, through its PeopleSupport Center project Convergys, InfoNXX, and a future BPO campus in Canlubang; the Filinvest Group through Northgate Plaza in Alabang, and Robinsons Land Corp. through Cybergate Center in Mandaluyong.

RUFINO

PPA to set aside ₱60M for port security

By Riza T. Olchondra

THE PHILIPPINE PORTS AUTHORity (PPA) has set a budget of P60 million for the acquisition of new port security equipment for next year, in line with its mission to enhance port safety and minimize emerging threats from global terrorism.

The procurement of the security equipment also complies with the requirements of the International Ship Port Facility Security Code.

According to bid documents, proposals higher than the budget will not be considered.

Only bidders with a track record of at least three years in the security equipment industry and who have successfully delivered on contracts for at least P30 million worth of equipment within the last five years can submit bids. The bidders should also have personnel experience enough in handling and commissioning the equipment.

The port security equipment should be declared fully operational by the PPA within six months from the time it awards the contract.

Final bids must be submitted to the PPA's bids and awards committee office no later than 9 a.m. on Oct. 24.

Only organizations that are at least 75-percent owned by Filipinos and who had offered the same or lower budget for the project, would be allowed to join the bidding.

DA seeks help to curb smuggling

By Christine A. Gaylican

AN ATTACHED AGENCY OF THE Department of Agriculture has turned to the Bureau of Customs for assistance to curb what officials suspect to be a widespread case of vegetable smuggling.

Charges of economic sabotage, falsification of public documents and revocation of permit would be slapped on a brokerage company operating at the Manila International Container Port and another firm, Eastern Pacific Trading, allegedly for falsifying documents that allowed the release of 11 container vans filled with imported onions from China, said Lealyn Ramos, officer-in-charge of the DA's Bureau of Plant and Industry.

"We are now seeking the help of the Bureau of Customs for assistance to better facilitate the processing of vegetable imports," Ramos said. "There has been a falsification of the DA's stamp and pertinent signatures."

Volume of the seized products are estimated to be 275 metric tons worth P5.5 million.

Ramos said the agency had coordinated with MICP collector lawyer Adelina Molina to double check the documents covering the sudden influx of imported onions from China.

She said that permits held by Eastern Pacific Trading had expired.

The anomaly was only discovered late July, Ramos added.

Fries manipulation

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

FIRST THE GOOD NEWS: NAPOCor president Cyril del Callar says Napocor can still recover the P1 billion or so it threw away—on purpose, mind you—into the new electricity open market system called WESM.

As for the bad news, Del Callar's boast is an obvious confirmation of what news media recently exposed in the WESM as "price manipulation."

In another brilliant move, one that was apparently sanctioned by this cute administration of Gloriaetta, the state-owned Napocor sold electricity in the spot market at only half of its production cost.

But Del Callar says, okay, no *problemo*. Even if Napocor manipulated the price of electricity by purposely incurring losses, it can get it all back in no time.

Result: Electricity rates in the whole of Luzon are going up like crazy already.

Really now, it's not as if we are talking here about the price manipulation for French fries or peanuts. We are talking of something that means life and death to everybody in this country.

Now, this is the question to the lawmakers who cannot wait to investigate the WESM "price manipulation:" Why does Napocor purposely squander that much money?

The state-owned corporation has been bleeding by the hundreds of billions of pesos for a long time. That's precisely the reason the Epira law, seeking to reform the power sector, allowed Napocor to transfer its debts to the national government, meaning, the taxpayers. (Yes, that's you!)

In effect, by relieving Napocor of its debts, the law had wanted to make the Napocor power plants attractive enough to private investors.

Unfortunately, Napocor controls about 70 percent of the power generation in WESM. It is still a virtual monopoly and remains so dominant in the power business, its pricing can surely affect the price in the open market.

Which was precisely what happened, forcing Napocor to take that P1-billion loss just like that.

Now, while the Epira "privatization" law was intended to get rid of the Napocor monopoly, Napocor under this cute administration took, and is still taking, its sweet time to privatize its power plants.

And talk in the power sector had it that the delay was deliberate, considering that the delay would allow the Napocor "mafia" to keep their stranglehold on the sector and continue with their fiesta of graft and corruption.

Without the Napocor privatization, however, the open market system cannot work. The WESM does not work with magic.

It so happens that to solve problems, this cute administration has a penchant for performing "magic." To bring down the high unemployment rate, it did not actually create real jobs, but simply changed the definition of the "unemployed." To eliminate the classroom shortage, it did not put up new classrooms, but doubled or even tripled the number of times the classrooms are used. And if electricity rates are high, why, just let Napocor sell power at a loss in the open market. Voila! The rates go down, like magic!

And so Napocor's Del Callar, in admitting the huge loss, also confirmed the news reports about "price manipulation" in WESM. And what did this country gain from it? In the short-term, this cute administration could continue to look "cute" with the resulting low electricity rates.

In the long run, somebody must still pay for the Napocor losses, and that somebody can only be the taxpayers, including those who do not use as much electricity as, say, all those gigantic malls, that actually benefited from the Napocor-inspired "price manipulation" more than the masses did.

Above all, I am afraid that the biggest damage is the undeniable perception that the open market system has failed in this country. Foreign investors will surely entertain doubts about our ability to adopt the open market system which, by the way, is our only chance to reform the power sector. Thank Napocor for that!

* * *

All ye advertisers, take notice: There is a big mystery in the local television ratings, and the lone rating company here called AGB Nielsen Media Research still has no logical explanation.

The mystery involves the top networks, namely, leading GMA-7 and second-running ABS-CBN. Specifically, it has to do with their ratings in "cable" TV versus "free" TV.

Historically, both networks have enjoyed much, much higher ratings in "free" TV than "cable" TV—for obvious reasons, such as, you have fewer choices among the "free" channels than in "cable" TV.

In the past couple of years, the AGB Nielsen ratings have shown a rather weird trend. And that is: ABS-CBN ratings among the "cable" homes have been climbing dramatically.

Recently, based on the AGB Nielsen reports, the ratings of ABS-CBN made a fantastic shift that never happened before in the history of local television. The network posted higher ratings among "cable" subscribers than among "free" television viewers.

In other words, more people with "cable" connections were watching ABS-CBN than all the other cable channels combined.

Is that mystifying or what? I mean, "cable" subscribers usually watch what they cannot get on "free" TV, right? Otherwise, why would they spend a fortune on "cable" subscriptions?

From my little experience in the business, I know that major changes in a network's ratings are only possible with major changes in programming. This is the only working principle that TV guys live by.

Did ABS-CBN have major programming changes? Not if you consider all those soap programs and Kris Aquino's voice!

Now the "ratings" game is an advertising game. Advertisers look at the ratings to decide on which television shows to place their commercials. Unfortunately, the advertisers mostly just look at the "ratings" summary, not into details such as the "cable" versus "free television" results.

Within those AGB Nielsen figures, nevertheless, lies a disturbing mystery: While GMA-7 still beats ABS-CBN in the over-all ratings, ABS-CBN somehow narrowed the gap by beating the living daylights out of GMA-7 (up to double digits difference, mind you) among the "cable" households.

In fact, one of our contacts in the advertising business got a "text message" from the ABS-CBN marketing group predicting that, in the next AGB Nielsen daily report, certain ABS-CBN shows will have beaten their competitors in GMA-7 and encouraging advertisers to hurry up and make their ad placements.

Customs seen to miss Sept. collection target

By Michelle V. Remo

THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS yesterday gave a hint that it had failed to meet its revenue-collection target for September, citing delays in the processing of noncash duty payments by some importing government agencies.

The BOC was given a target of collecting P18.3 billion in September. The BOC did not say, however, how much the potential shortfall would be.

Customs Commissioner Napoleon Morales said there were supposedly P1.4 billion worth of noncash duty payments to be included in the BOC's September collection. But the official was not sure whether the amount could still be credited for last month because of processing delays.

Morales blamed the power outage caused by Typhoon "Milenyo," explaining that the calamity hampered the electronic processing of documents on noncash duty payments.

"If the noncash would not be credited to us (BOC) in September, then we might be short of our target," Morales said in Filipino. "But as far as our cash collections are concerned, the target was already achieved."

Morales did not elaborate as to how agency officials were able to conclude that the BOC had already hit its cash collection target.

Government agencies that are allowed to import goods, such as the National Food Authority, are supposed to pay duties in noncash form. The amount of noncash duty payments are deducted from their tax expenditure fund (TEF), which the national government allots them.

Should the BOC fail to meet its September collection goal, it would be the first time the agency would record a one-month revenue shortfall.

The government's fiscal performance in September, covering revenue collection and expenditures, will be announced some time next week.

Revenue authorities said the BOC's collection performance would not significantly affect the agency's effort to meet its full-year goal.

From January to August, the BOC had exceeded its collection by P7.3 billion.

The BOC collected a total of P129.4 billion in duties and import taxes in the first eight months of the year. Its target for the period was set at P122.08 billion.

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6 months	3.75%	3.88%	3.88%	4.00%
12 months	3.88%	4.00%	4.13%	4.25%

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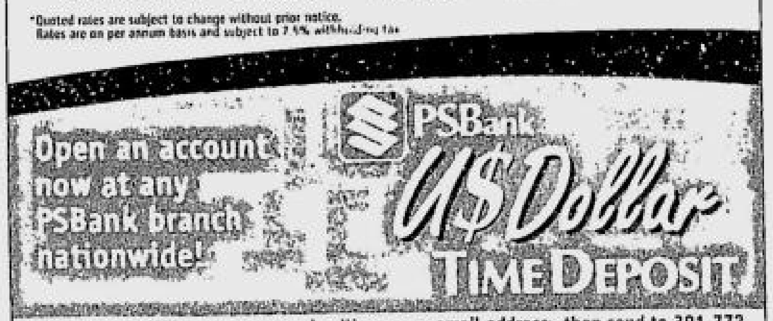

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Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF ORIENTAL NEGROS
Bids and Awards Committee
Capitol Area, Dumaguete City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Bids and Awards Committee of the Provincial Government of Oriental Negros invites all interested bidders to apply for eligibility and submit sealed bids for the supply, delivery, installation and commissioning of **One (1) Lot Cooling System for the Oriental Negros Convention Hall, Capitol Area, Dumaguete City (ABC: 20,000,000.00).**

The list of eligibility requirements is now available at the BAC Secretariat, Provincial General Services Office (PGSO) Capitol Area, Dumaguete City, with Tel./Fax #: (035) 422-8895.

The **Pre-Bid Conference** is scheduled on **October 12, 2006** at 10:00 a.m. at the Governor's Office Conference Room, Capitol, Dumaguete City while the **submission and opening of bids** is scheduled on **October 24, 2006** at 10:00 a.m. at the PGSO, Capitol Area, Dumaguete City.

The Committee on Awards reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any required formality and award the contract to the bidder whose bid proposal as evaluated by the Committee is the most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) ATTY. ISMAEL P. MARTINEZ
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee
Provincial General Services Officer

(PDI – October 3 & 10, 2006)

Standard Form Number - 05
Revised on July 29, 2004
Contract Reference Number
300-06-0015

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON
Provincial Capitol, Malaybalay City
Telephone No. 813-3353 & 221-3114 Telefax No. 813-2141
E-mail address: buk_provl_bac@yahoo.com.ph

OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR
Bids and Awards Committee

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Provincial Government of Bukidnon, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites contractors registered with and classified by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) to apply for eligibility and if found eligible, to bid for the hereunder contract:

Name of Contract	Construction of Talakag Water Supply
Location	Talakag, Bukidnon
Brief Description	Const. of 1 unit Intake Box, Installation of G.I. uPVC pipes with a length of 28,781 meters, Construction of River Crossing Structure at Batang River and Construction 26,000.00 Gallons and Construction of 2 units 6,000.00 gallons ground reservoir.
Contract Reference Number	300-06-0015
Approved Budget for the Contract	P 26,819,021.00
Contract Duration	365.00 Calendar Days including rainfall allowance

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

1.	Advertisement	October 9-23, 2006
2.	Receipt from prospective bidders of Letters of Intent (LOI) including Application for Eligibility Forms	October 23, 2006 until 9:00 A.M. only
3.	Notice of Results of Eligibility Check	October 25, 2006
4.	Issuance of Bid Documents	October 26, 2006
5.	Pre-Bid	October 31, 2006
6.	Receipt and Opening of Bids	November 14, 2006, 2:00 P.M.

The BAC will issue to prospective bidders Eligibility Forms upon their submission of LOI, and upon their payment of a non-refundable amount at P200.00. Eligibility Form to the Provincial Treasurer Office. Prospective bidders shall submit the Eligibility Requirements to the BAC Secretariat Office Capitol, Malaybalay City. They may also obtain the results of the Eligibility Check by BAC Secretariat at the same address.

The BAC will issue Bidding Documents only to bidders declared by the BAC to be eligible for the Bidding upon payment of a non-refundable amount of P5,000.00.

The Provincial Government of Bukidnon assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids.

Approved:
(Sgd.) JOSEFINA F. FLORES
Provincial Administrator
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - October 10 & 16 2006)

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■ 13 helpful secrets /C4

LIFESTYLE

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso
sms feedback: inquirer life name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 386 (Smart) or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

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MONDAY **ARTS & BOOKS** ● TUESDAY **FITNESS** ● WEDNESDAY **2BU** ● THURSDAY **FOOD** ● FRIDAY **FASHION & BEAUTY**

Breathing exercises to relieve stress

WELL AND GOOD

Tina Juan

Deep belly or diaphragmatic breathing calms your nervous system

BREATHING EXERCISES ARE AMONG THE most powerful tools in managing stress. Controlling your breath helps you control your stress.

A saying in yoga goes, "When the breath is steady, the mind gives this reflection. When the breath is unsteady, the mind gives this reflection. Therefore, the breath should be controlled."

Pranayama or the yogic science of breath control has many techniques. Advanced exercises are best learned from an experienced yoga teacher.

Here are simple variations that are easy to learn and apply to your daily life:

Belly breathing

Shallow chest breathing stimulates a "fight or flight" reaction. It makes you tense and releases stress hormones. Deep belly or diaphragmatic breathing calms your nervous system. Use belly breathing to ease gently into a relaxed state before sleeping.

1. Lie down and place one hand on your chest and the other on your abdomen.
2. Expand both chest and abdomen as you inhale through the nose. You may have to make a conscious effort to expand the belly if you are used to breathing only with the chest. Eventually, your abdomen will move by itself.
3. As you exhale through your nose, feel your chest and abdomen deflating. You should also feel your navel or bellybutton gently being pulled toward your spine.
4. Work toward inhaling for three counts and exhaling for five to six counts. Practice for a few minutes.
5. Use visualization to make your experience even more satisfying. Visualize your body rising gently with your inhalation and sinking or floating down with your exhalation. Imagine that your breath is like a wave that gently laps the seashore as you inhale and goes back out to sea when you exhale. When thoughts intrude, visualize them as clouds lazily crossing the sky.

Ujjayi breathing

Ujjayi (pronounced ooh-ja-yee) means "victorious" breath and it can help you be victorious over tension and anxiety. The distinctive feature of *ujjayi* breathing is a rasping noise made during exhalation.

It is similar to the sound of Darth Vader in "Star Wars" breathing through his mask. It is more romantic to call this type the "ocean-sounding breath."

This type gives you a rhythmical sound to concentrate and focus on. Your breath becomes your "mantra." Use *ujjayi* breathing when you need to calm down quickly from a stressful encounter or situation.

One of the most practical ways to learn this type of yogic breathing is to read the manual "Yoga Fundamentals: A Fitness Approach" by good friend and colleague Lawrence Bisconti-ni.

1. Sit on a chair or cross-legged on the floor.
2. Place the palm of one hand about two inches in front of your mouth.
3. Inhale deeply through the nose, and exhale through the mouth, imagining that your palm is a mirror you are trying to fog. Notice the sound that comes from the back of the throat.
4. Repeat this inhalation-exhalation cycle until you are familiar with the "Darth Vader" sound on exhalation.
5. Close your mouth, inhale and exhale exclusively through the nose. Make the exhalation sound that begins in the back of the throat, still imagining that you are fogging up the mirror. The mouth remains closed.

Alternate-nostril breathing

This is my favorite. It really helps me to relax. Yogis believe this is the best technique to calm the mind and nerves.

They say healthy people breathe more easily through one nostril for about two hours, then the body switches to the other nostril. They also believe that the right nostril generates heat while the left nostril dissipates heat and the practice of alternate-nostril breathing balances things out.

What does science say? Research has found there really is such a thing as the nasal cycle (two to eight hours long) and there is a connection between the predominant nostril and the opposite brain hemisphere.

A 1988 study found that right-nostril breathing significantly increased blood glucose levels while left-nostril breathing lowered it.

Interestingly, yogis believe diabetes is caused by a nasal cycle abnormality from predominantly breathing through the right nostril for many years.

A 1993 study found that forced right-nostril breathing (four times a day for one month) significantly increased oxygen consumption compared to breathing through the left nostril.

A 1994 study published in the International Journal of Psychophysiology found that alternate-nostril breathing appeared to have a balancing effect on the functional activity of the left and right hemisphere of the brain.

The left brain is the logical, structured side while the right brain is the creative, imaginative side.

The simplest version of alternate-nostril breathing is to close your right nostril with your right thumb and take three breaths with your left nostril (an inhale and an exhale equals one breath), then switch by closing your left nostril with your right pinky finger. Breathe slowly, deeply and evenly. Do three to five cycles.

Easy version

1. Sit with your head tilted slightly forward. Close your eyes.
2. Use the right thumb for the right nostril and the pinky finger of the same hand for the left nostril. Open and close your nostrils like valves (if you are left-handed, reverse the instructions).
3. Set a pattern of right inhale, left exhale, left inhale, right exhale. That makes one cycle.
4. Do 10-20 cycles.

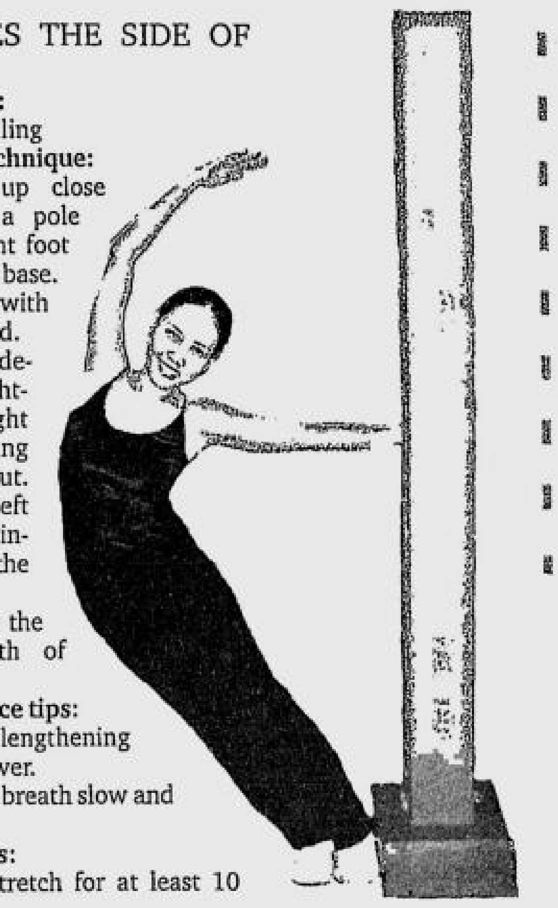
Do not do alternate-nostril breathing when you have a cold and never force a blocked nostril.

Visit www.tinajuanfitness.info

CLIP & SAVE

EXERCISE OF THE WEEK

Pole side stretch



STRETCHES THE SIDE OF the body

Equipment:
A pole or railing

Exercise technique:
1. Stand up close sideways to a pole with your right foot touching the base. Hold the pole with your right hand.
2. Pull sideways by straightening your right arm and pushing your left hip out. Bring your left arm over to increase the stretch.
3. Stay for the desired length of time.

Performance tips:
1. Focus on lengthening upward and over.
2. Keep the breath slow and rhythmic.

Repetitions:
Hold the stretch for at least 10 seconds.

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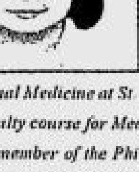
Take Charge Doc!

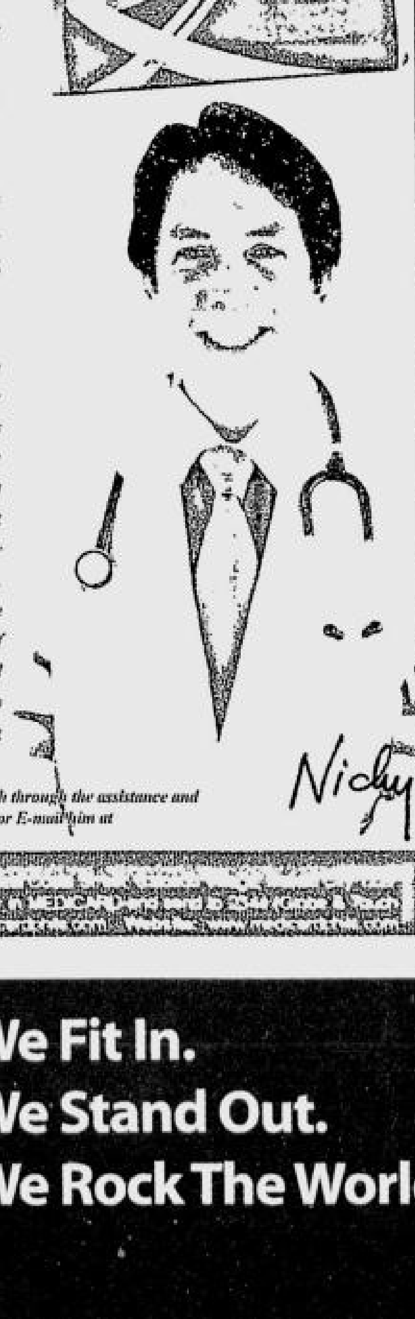
What is breast cancer and how do I prevent it?

Breast cancer is a disease in which cancer cells grow in the breast tissue. Normally, cells divide in a regulated manner. If cells keep dividing uncontrollably when new cells are not needed, a mass of tissue forms, called a growth or tumor. When breast cancer cells spread, the cancer cells are often found in lymph nodes near the breast and can also spread to almost any other parts of the body. Its exact cause is still unknown and it is more common in women, although men can develop breast cancer as well. Risk factors are those older than 50 years old, with family and past history of breast cancer, history of radiation therapy (chest area), smokers, alcohol drinkers, and those with certain reproductive history. Early diagnosis and treating the disease is the best way to prevent patient from dying. Since it does not cause symptoms in the early stage, it is important to have screening tests before symptoms appears, like monthly breast self examinations starting at age 20, clinical breast exams every 2-3 years by a physician and screening mammograms starting at age 40.



This week's answer to our feature question was provided by our medical service provider from Metro Manila who specializes in IM-Oncology, Dr. Janet B. Bautista. She finished her medicine degree from UST in 1995 and took her specialization training for Internal Medicine at St. Luke's Medical Center. She later obtained her subspecialty course for Medical Oncology in the same institution in 2005. She is a member of the Philippine Medical Association and fellow of the Philippine Society of Medical Oncology and Philippine College of Physicians. She is married to Dr. Jose Marianito Bautista and blessed with 2 children. MEDICARD members may avail of her consultation services at The Medical City Clinic -Pasig (Ever Gotesco Branch) during Tuesdays to Thursdays from 2pm-5pm.

MEDICard's Medical Director, Dr. Nicky Montoya answers questions on health through the assistance and expertise of MEDICard's network of accredited specialists. Write to Dr. Nicky or E-mail him at inquiry@medicardphils.com for your inquiries on health matters.



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Shop Cook & Learn
CCA

Our satellite school at the Araneta Center's Farmers Market features CREATIVE RECREATIONAL SHORT COURSES that will ignite your culinary senses. With a unique concept that is a first of its kind in the Philippines, our chef instructors will guide you in shopping for the right ingredients within the Market, and return to the school to prepare all those sumptuous recipes.

Mondays
***8 AM to 12 NN* - "Imperial Palace"** (Japanese Home Cooking) Utilizing the flavors, textures and techniques of imperial kitchens, this class undertakes a culinary journey through the land of the samurai warriors. Recipes to be explored include Yakitori, Tempura, Oyako-Don, Oyagi, and Tekka-Maki Sushi. Course Fee **Php1,980.00**

***1 to 5 PM* - "Gutomako"** (Sushi for Fun & Profit). Hungry and craving for Japanese? Learn everything you need in making a beautiful assortment of sushi and maki rolls. Pick up the basics - cooking sushi rice, cutting and assembling the fillings and rolling ingredients using a bamboo mat. An experience not to be missed. Course Fee. **Php1,980.00** •

Tuesdays- 1 to 5 PM & 6 to 10 PM
"Goodbye Deliveries" (Pizza Master Class). No matter how many countries offer versions of pizza known for their thin (or thick) crusts and yummy toppings, Italian-inspired pizza will always reign supreme amongst all pizzas. Join our chef instructor as he teaches you how to make dough from scratch with which you will make a selection that includes Pizza a la Margherita, Pizza Caperi, Olive e Acciughe, Pizza Quattro Formaggi, Pizza Primavera and Dessert Fruit Pizza. After this class, you don't have to ask for pizza deliveries. Course Fee **Php1,980.00**

Wednesdays- 1 to 5 PM & 6 to 10 PM
"Jewel in the Kitchen" (Essentials of Korean Cuisine). Korea is known as "the land of the morning calm" but its culture is quick to shake things and open palates with bursts of flavors and colorful presentations. The class focuses on an in depth approach to essential ingredients and techniques that are central to Korean cooking. The recipes put condiments and ingredients to work in traditional Korean dishes as Bulgogi, Kimchi, Kalbi Chim, Chap Chae, and Tok wach'ae. Course Fee **Php1,980.00** •

Thursdays- 1 to 5 PM & 6 to 10 PM
"Pasta't Tayo'y Magkasama" (Pasta Master Class). Get a taste of Italy's fabulous pastas at your home. Let our chef instructors "accompany" and guide you as you create fabulous pasta dishes such as Fettuccine Carbonara, Four-Cheese Pasta, Penne with Sausage and Peppers, Seafood Lasagna, Capellini Aglio e Olio and Mushroom Ragout with Fussili and Cream. A demo on Pasta making is included. Course Fee: **Php1,980.00**

Special Classes for the Holiday Season

HOLIDAY TRADITIONAL DELICACIES
Fridays - 1 to 5 PM. Join our chef instructor and learn the fundamentals of baking in a new repertoire of Pinoy traditional festive treats. Start your own tradition as you make, then go home with the recipes for traditional menu such as Ube-Cassava Bibingka, Maja Blanca, Puto Bumbong, Kalamay na Ube, and Leche Flan. Course Fee **Php2,280.00**

HOLIDAY COOKING AND BAKING
With the holiday season around the corner, nobody beats CCA, Manila Farmers Market Satellite School entertaining menus for Christmas Holiday Cooking and Baking. Learn everything you need to know in preparing a traditional dinner plus get tips on making your celebration come off without a hitch. Learn holiday baked treats that can be safely stored without losing a drop of flavor or compromising texture. Learn to make the traditional foods that would make your holiday entertaining easy as one, two, and three.

Saturdays
7 AM to 12 NN - Holiday Cooking Set 1 Paella Valenciana, Chicken Pastel, Embotido and Standing Rib Roast Cabernet au Jus. Course Fee **Php2,680.00** •

1 to 6 PM - Holiday Cooking Set 2 Roasted Pork Loin with Glazed Gravy, Walnut Pear Roast Chicken, Morcon and Classic Pot Roast ala Jardiniere. Course Fee **Php2,680.00** •

Sundays
7 AM to 12 NN - Holiday Baking Set 1 Fruit Cake, Upside-Down Cake, Food for the Gods and Buche de Noel. Course Fee: **Php2,680.00**

1 to 6 PM - Holiday Baking Set 2 Butterscotch, Sugar Cookies, Holiday Brownies, Ginger Bread and Muffins. Course Fee **Php2,680.00**

• Course includes Farmers Market Tour

WHO SHOULD ENROLL — Cooking hobbyists and enthusiasts
INCLUSIONS — Ingredients for all featured recipes, recipe handout, toque and apron

GIFT CERTIFICATE - Be innovative and give your friend or loved one something different (and valuable) for that special occasion. Let him (or her) gain a new skill by giving a short course gift certificate.

CUSTOMIZED COURSES - Special classes can be arranged for individuals and groups depending on preferred topics and schedules. Why not have a CULINARY and BAKING TEAM BONDING SEMINAR or bridal shower at our satellite school for that unique bonding experience.

Courses and schedules are subject to change without prior notice

FREE Get your 5th course for FREE for every four (4) courses availed.

Applicable only if the four (4) courses are reserved and paid altogether. A holiday course can only be availed for free provided four (4) holiday courses are also booked. Promo ends December 11, 2006

For schedules, featured recipes, and other details, please contact:
CCA, Manila Farmers Market, Araneta Center, Quezon City
437 6058 | marketing_farmers@cca-manila.com | www.cca-manila.com

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Chef Miguel Alba
Class 1997
President
& General Manager,
Alba Restaurant

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VIVACIOUS and fun Cindy Oppen, with her elegant mother Cecile Jamora Oppen and southern gentry's Alberto Sanchez

THE CITY'S "supreme jewelers." Marissa Florete Gorriceta and Marjorie Florete and their mother, Susan Caperonce Florete, with Christine Florete

EVA ABESAMIS and Tessa Prieto V. and Dennis Valdes

AMIGO Terrace's driving force, Benedict Uygongco

POPULAR society figure, Dr. Pacita Gonzales

JOJI Dongcong, Philippine Tatler's mega publisher Irene Martel Francisco, Manille's stylish Marivic Madrigal Vasquez and escort, lawyer José Mari Treñas

HOTEL del Rio's Tata Loring, Engel Sarrosa and husband Cedric Loring, owners of the city's top bar and resto, Flow

MARTITA de los Santos and John Castigador

ILOILO couturier Eric de los Santos and "eventologist" Nonoy Ybiernas

MIRO Bruan and Philippine Tatler editor in chief Anton San Diego

Tittle-tattling in Iloilo

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache

Photos by **Alex Van Hagen** using **Kodak** EasyShare system

IT WAS ONE OF THE BIGGEST happenings to hit the picture-pretty city of Iloilo in years, *palanggas*. All roads led to the centrally located popular Amigo Terrace Hotel.

Only one of the country's top social and lifestyle magazines, the Philippine Tatler, *naturellement*, can pull off such extraordinary act with style and tons of class, dahlings.

The Tatler gathered all the dazzling stars of Iloilo's high society and loads of Cosmo Manille's creamiest of the cream for the launching of its August issue featuring the city's southern gentry.

The hotel's grand ballroom was transformed into a fabulous top-of-the-line party place, never-before-seen in Metro Iloilo, through the wizardry and creativity of **Mike Caling**, no less, *palanggas*.

Jetting in from Cosmo Manille were Tatler's hotshots: publisher **Irene Martel-Francisco**, editor-in-chief **Anton San Diego**; GM **Lynne Palma**; and lifestyle and society editor **Maurice Arcache** (as in *moi*). They were joined by master photojournalists **Wig Tysmans** and **Alex Van Hagen**, with **Dindo Gutierrez**.

Manila gang

As always my favorite, traffic-stopping **Tessa Prieto V.** with her hubby, PhilWeb president **Dennis Valdes**, together with art collector, lawyer **José Marie Treñas** and stunning eye-catcher **Marivic Madrigal Vasquez**; The Philippine Star's **Pepper Teehankee**; top producer and starmaker **Joji Dingcong**; fashion plate **Mons Romulo** with husband, entrepreneur **Sander Tantoco**; and Cebu's dazzling 40-carat diamond **Amparito Lhuillier** with husband, gem magnate **Michel Lhuillier**, drew everyone's eyes as they made their entrance, *palanggas*.

This one-of-a-kind happening honored 13 prominent Ilonggos who were featured in several glossy pages of the Philippine Tatler's August edition. In "Southern Gentry," the magazine showcased "Man of City Hall," popular Mayor **Jerry Treñas**; "The Power Pair" **Judgee** and **Sarah Peña**; "The Heritage Keeper" **Elena Jison-Golez**; "The Lady with a Cause" **Ruth Tirol-Jarantilla**; "The Visionaries" **Sandra Sarabia-Gomez** with her children **Pauline Gorriceta-Banusing**, **Felix III** and lawyer **Mark Gorriceta**; "The Exemplar" **Virginia Castro-Segovia**; "The Standard" **Cecile Jamora-Oppen**; "The Supreme" **Susan Caperonce Florete** with daughters **Marissa** and **Marjorie**; "The Comissioner" Gov. **Niel Tupas**; "The Pioneer" **Manuel Loring**; and "The Establishments" **Emily Relucio-Lopez** with son **Tito** (they were not able to make it because of some prior engagements in Cosmo Manille. **Elena Javellana**, whose husband is the uncle of **Albertito Lopez**, represented them).

Excellent spread

During cocktails, Iloilo's elite crowd couldn't get enough of the endless array of excellently prepared hors d'oeuvres courtesy *naturellement* of Amigo Hotel's one and only first lady, **Maridel Padilla-Uygongco**.

On one side of the ballroom there was a white and dark chocolate fondue table. Another table had tons of imported cheeses flown in from Manille, something of a first in the city, *palanggas*.

Diva of the hour was **Mae Bayot**, who had everyone's full attention as she belted out popular dance tunes to the delight of the invitees. It was followed by fast music from DJ **Gus Quisumbing** and **Joey Mijares**.

The last part of the glitzy event was the raffle. Given away were a chic Bally messenger bag, Clinique beauty packages and a high-end Technomarine watch. Top prize was a gorgeous ladies Cartier watch which, again dahlings, was another first for Metro Iloilo.

Congratulated endlessly was, *naturellement*, the south's *numero uno* "eventologist" and PR wonderman **Nonoy Ybiernas**, Philippine Tatler's top Iloilo correspondent, who was solely responsible for the fantastic turnout; together with Amigo Hotel's mega gentleman **Benedict Uygongco** (He said: "It's the first time Iloilo's Who's Who are out in full force."); and Panay's popular society columnist **John Castigador**.

Glamour sisters, vivacious Pangging and fun **Pane Rosales**, hosted a fab dinner for us earlier at the superb Buto't Balat resto. Brilliant young business magnate **Edgar Sia** of the super popular Mang Inasal chain of restos invited us to a yummy lunch while *el simpatico* **Federico J** threw an excellent after-show dinner at the historic Sanson-Montinola Antillian mansion in Jaro, catered by culinary genius **Wilson Esparancilla.**

Young lady of substance **Pauline Gorriceta-Banusing** hosted a superb lunch for everyone at her famous Al Dente Ristorante Italiano at Sarabia Manor Hotel and Convention Center.

The evening was a smashing success, thanks to Smart Infinity, Amigo Terrace Hotel, GMA Kapuso Network and the popular F&C Jewellery.

Moi would like to personally thank the wonderful Metro Iloilo top lifestyle columnists like the witty and talented **Zedrick Señeres** of the Guardian, **Marichelle Teves-Magalona** of The News Today, **Kathy Villalon-Cinco** of Sun.Star Daily; and **Ronnie Poblacion**, with **Paul Chiongson**, who helped with the picture-taking, *palanggas*.

While we showed the Ilonggos what Philippine Tatler magazine is, they in turn showed us what the legendary southern hospitality is all about, *palanggas*.

SISTERS TWO. New York City gal Pangging Rosales and sister Pane Rosales

ILOILO governor's son, Lex Tupas

"THE HERITAGE Keeper" Ellen Jison-Golez and curator of Museo Iloilo, Zapito Ledesma

MOTHER and daughter Snow and Dr. Neluz Ampig

CEBU'S dazzling couple, elegant Amparito Lhuillier and husband, business magnate Michel Lhuillier

SMART GALS. Mao Palomeros, Julie Carceller and Millet Cuadra

YOUNG, hip Pauline Gorriceta-Banusing and Alana Lopez Montelibano

ILOILO'S hostess with the mostest, Sarah Opolencia, and husband, sugar baron Judgee Lopez Peña

JANE Uy, Irma Lim and Gina Sarabia-Espinosa

ELEGANT couple Blithe and Peter O. Driscoll

ILOILO'S popular Mayor Jerry Treñas and wife, well-respected Rosalie Sarabia

FANTASTIC pair, Sander Tantoco and fashionable wife Mons Romulo

ILOILO Robinsons' Roper Pareño; designer Bo Parcon; Don Protacio, who won a Cartier watch; and Iloilo Robinsons' Ditas Taleon

PEPPER Teehankee; *moi*; Amigo Hotel's first lady, culinary whiz Maridel Uygongco; and master photographer Wig Tysmans

Teaching meditation in the land of its birth

INNER AWARENESS

Jaime T. Licauco

I'M BACK, AFTER NEARLY four weeks of grueling but highly successful lecture tour in Sri Lanka and India.

The hectic trip brought my wife and me to Colombo in Sri Lanka, and Madras (now Chennai), Bangalore, Hyderabad, Calcutta (now Kolkotta), Poona (now Pune), Bombay (now Mumbai) and New Delhi in India where I conducted workshops for the Young Presidents Organization (YPO) chapters there.

Remote viewing, self-healing through visualization and telepathy are topics completely outside an executive's field of work and competence. But these mental exercises that I made them perform were very well received and highly successful.

They were an extraordinary group of management people.

In Pune, for example, almost all participants successfully performed telepathy to their great surprise, the highest percentage of success I ever achieved. In remote viewing, over 90 percent of participants in each chapter succeeded in projecting their sense of awareness to a distant place and described accurately what they had never seen before.

The percentage of success in the self-healing through visualization exercise was difficult to determine because laboratory analysis was required to find out some illnesses. But those suffering from physical pain like headaches, back pains, were relieved of their problem.

Fascinating

I have always been fascinated by India because of its antiquity, mysticism and many stories of paranormal events. I've heard that in India, there are people who can make things appear out of nowhere, walk on fire or have their skins pierced by sharp knives without getting hurt. People can stay alive without any food or any liquid for months, heal all sorts of illness at an instance.

I thought I would have a chance to witness these things, but I saw nothing of the sort. Mystic people with extraordinary powers are not found in the cities but in far places or remote villages hundreds of kilometers away. They shun the dazzle and noise of city living and prefer the quiet calm of country life.

Instead, what I found was a very modern, progressive and dynamic country with a robust economy. It is a far cry from what I had been told it would be.

Before I went to India I was told that in some parts people were so poor and hungry that some literally died on the streets. Nothing could be farther from the truth.

In fact I've seen more poor people on the streets of Metro Manila than even in Calcutta. I've seen places here that are dirtier and more crowded. There's nothing like being in the place itself to change one's false impression about a country.

Modernizing

But it is true that in India, traces of an agricultural life can be seen side by side with modernity. I saw late-model cars running in the metropolis alongside cows and pedal-powered rickshaws.

If one is not careful, one can easily step on some cow dung especially near Hindu, Buddhist and Muslim temples that are visible everywhere like fast foods are in Manila.

Just to show how modernization had eclipsed the ancient religious culture of India, in Bangalore we had to pass inside a big department store building to reach the big statue of Shiva in a temple behind it.

There is no direct passage to the temple except through that department store! It is like entering a 21st-century building and exiting into a Jurassic Age edifice.

Although I saw almost none of the mystical and paranormal side of India, the trip had its own rewards. My wife had a grand time exploring the famous pearls in Hyderabad, the cheap but quality jewelry in Bangalore, and the magnificent silk and carpet products in Jaipur.

Cheap books

Me? I enjoyed visiting the bookstores with their unbelievably low prices. I couldn't resist loading my luggage with a lot of them. I don't know why the Philippines can't have cheap books and cheap medicines like India.

Like most Asian countries, India is fast losing its battle to preserve its traditional cultural heritage against the onslaughts of modernization. I asked our licensed tour guide, for example, what he thought of Ayurveda, the traditional herbal healing modality of India. He said, "Well, it also works, but British medicine works faster."

Here's another example. I felt awkward teaching Indian executives how to meditate and reach the alpha level of their brain waves, because where did meditation come from? India! It was like selling ice to Eskimos.

But these modern business executives have, generally speaking, lost touch with their glorious ancient past, like wealthy Filipinos who have become so at home with western concepts and practices they get surprised when introduced to something their ancestors practised for thousand of years.

I will be conducting a Total Wellness Seminar with Cory Quirino on Oct. 21 in Cagayan de Oro City, and a Soulmates, Karma and Reincarnation seminar on Oct. 22. Contact Julie Ang at 0917-7061175. On Oct. 28-29, I will conduct my Inner Mind Development Seminar in Cebu City. Contact Bong Amante at 0917-3252845

Next week: A heavy stone that can be lifted with two fingers of 11 men

Learning about proper nutrition the fun way

A ROVING PLAYGROUND AIMS TO educate about 10,000 grade-school children on the value of nutritive food through fun-filled activities.

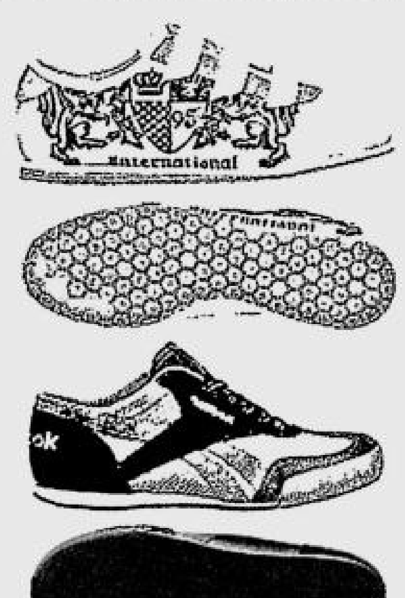
Set up by Sustagen School, it is making the rounds of schools in Metro Manila and Cebu. The Sustagen Healthy-Go-Round Playground has so far visited five schools in Metro Manila.

The Healthy-Go-Round Playground features different modules. Kids from Grades 1-6 play games and accomplish physical challenges even as they learn about vitamins and minerals to keep them strong and healthy.

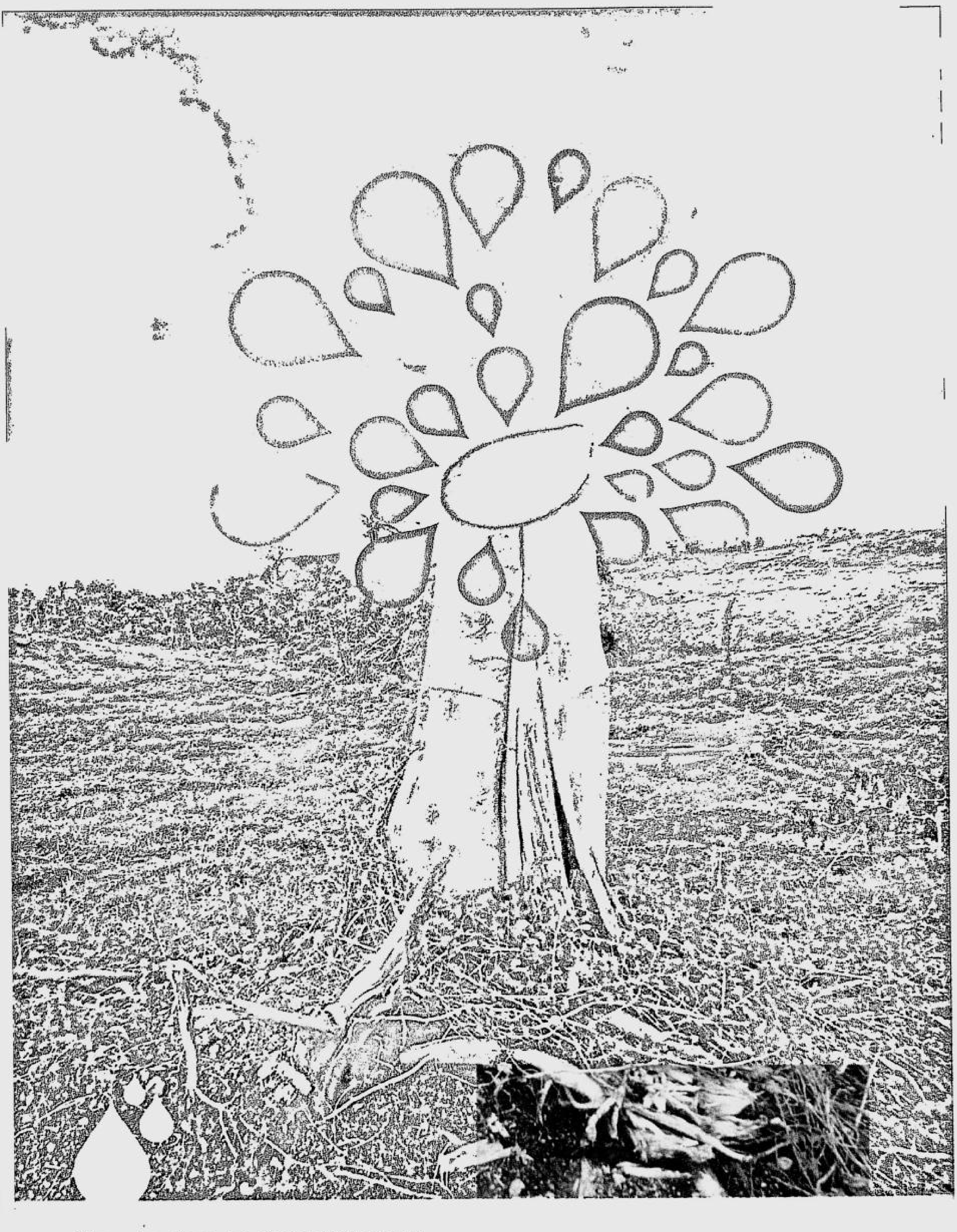
They also learn about Sustagen School with its 23 Resistensya Builders, gives them precisely these sa.

The Healthy-Go-Round Playground tour also includes a visit by Susy and Geno, who invite them to collect box tabs and marked can lids of Sustagen for a chance to win the Healthy-Go-Round Playground for their own school.

Other fun prizes include components of the Healthy-Go-Round Playground Sustagen School canteen for the school, as well as sponsored excursions and activities for winning sections.



YOUTHFUL
The latest Reebok Collection features designs drawn from the passions of youth: sports, music, technology and entertainment. Cool and edgy, the footwear, apparel and accessories are intended for young people who want their gear to reflect the attitude of their life. Reebok is available at SM Megamall, SM Sucat, SM City North Edsa, Festival Mall, Royal Sporting House outlets, The Shoe Shop at the Power Plant Mall in Rockwell, Why Pay More? Mandaluyong, The Shoe Shop Alabang Town Center and other authorized dealers.



Bawat patak, naghahatid buhay.

Nakikipatak kami sa Watershed Reforestation Programs na nagsisikap ibalik ang sigla ng watershed areas. Sa pakikilahok sa tree planting, river councils at marami pang iba, nakakatulong kami sa pangangalaga ng kapaligiran.

The Coca-Cola Company
bawat patak, mahalaga™

13 secrets to weight loss

INSIDE OUT

Cory Quirino

EATING IS A FAVORITE PASTIME FOR many. For others, it is a passion.

So for the passionate and the hearty eaters who are waist-conscious and who watch their weight, here are a few tips:

1 Enjoy your meal but eat in moderation. Moderate portions of food are recommended rather than generous servings. Unless it's a salad or a vegetable dish, oversized meals are discouraged.

2 Start with a bowl of hot soup. According to Japanese tradition, this is one of the best weight-loss tricks. Taking vegetable soups before a meal fills up your tummy so you tend to eat less. This is from Barbara Rolls, author of the "Volumetrics Eating Plan."

3 Make lunch your main meal of the day.

This is a European practice, though inspired by Ayurveda, India's 5,000-year-old health and wellness science. Our digestive fire or *agni* is strongest during the crucial time of 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Thus, digestion is strongest at this time (Jennifer Workman, "Stop Your Cravings"). Just following this program could lead to weight loss.

4 Opt for quality, not quantity, in your food. The French look upon a meal as a celebration, not a duty. Thus, enjoying the best of food takes precedence over the size of servings.

5 Combine your food flavors. In Ayurveda, six basic tastes exist—sweet, sour, salty, bitter, astringent and pungent. Go ahead, let your taste buds explore!

6 Follow the color guide. The Japanese believe in dressing up a meal. Colors that have greatest nutrients are green, blue-green, red, yellow, white and black. That translates to lettuce, broccoli, peppers, squash, black beans.

7 Use healthy oils. Think virgin olive oil and virgin coconut oil (yes, it's a great salad oil, too!).

8 When eating a meal, don't do anything else. People who eat and watch television will end up eating more. Those who are rushing to eat in between appointments end up having junk food. The eat-and-run habit can make you eat less nutritious food.

9 Keep regular hours for regular meals. Follow some kind of regimen and routine. Better to eat regularly, rather than irregularly then making up for the food loss by overeating.

10 Eat when you are hungry, and not because it is mealtime. While this may sound contradictory, if you eat with regularity then you will train your body to eat just right.

11 Try not to dine alone. Eating with family and friends can help you slim down. That's because you tend to share the food placed before you. And you eat more slowly.

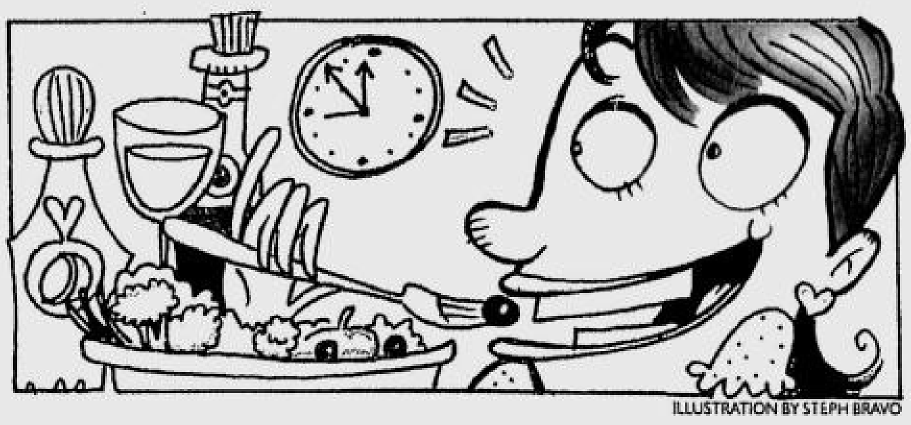


ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

12 Enjoy a glass of wine. Because this beverage also has antioxidants (that counter the harmful effects of disease-causing oxygen free radicals), not only do you enjoy your meal, you also get its health benefits.

13 Don't linger too long after a meal. If you overstay in a restaurant, you tend to order more. So, stand up after a meal and go about your business.

Staying slim is easy. If you eat right and combine this with regular exercise, you can achieve a slim figure in no time. This is as simple as it gets.

Your affirmation: "I eat well to look well."

Health and beauty regimen

Crush tomatoes. Remove seeds. Rub on your hands, face, neck and feet—the body parts that are most exposed. Leave on for two minutes on the face and five minutes on the other body parts. Rinse with cool water. Great skin softener!

Love and light!

Reference: "Weight Loss Tips from Around The World," Readers Digest

HOW LONG
CAN THIS
FAMILY
HOLD ITS
BREATH?

INFLUENZA. A SINGLE SNEEZE TRAVELING AT A SPEED OF 600 MILES PER HOUR MAY CARRY ABOUT 100,000 INFLUENZA VIRUS CELLS. THESE STUBBORN CELLS CAN STAY ALIVE IN A ROOM FOR AT LEAST 30 MINUTES. EVENTUALLY, THEY COULD ENTER YOUR BODY THROUGH YOUR MOUTH, EYES OR NOSE.

Now, think about it, whom do you share a room with?
Or to put it another way, with whom do you share the air you breathe?

Influenza can infect anyone just by breathing the same air an infected person breathes.
Moving too fast, every member of your family might be infected before you know it.

This highly contagious disease called Influenza is commonly misconceived as "just a Flu" or the common cold.
The truth is, it could lead to serious complications like Bronchitis, Pneumonia, heart failure, and ultimately, death.

Fortunately there is a vaccine that can protect you and your family from this threat.
Get yourself and your family vaccinated against the Influenza virus.
But act fast, with the rainy season, there is an increase in Influenza virus activity.

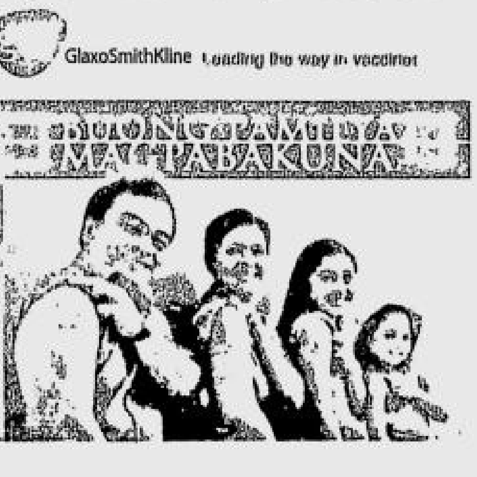
Ask your doctor about Famili Vaccines TODAY.

Famili Vaccines
Your power to protect

GlaxoSmithKline Leading the way in vaccines

References:
1. JFK Health World Museum
2. http://www.birdavianflu.com/birdfluairbornetransmission.htm
3. http://www.cdc.gov/flu/keyfacts.htm

FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT FAMILI VACCINES HOTLINE
METRO MANILA 814-0808
TOLL FREE 1-800-10-9GSKVAX



Killers In Your Home: What You Can Do

There is a silent killer lurking in the most unlikely of places. It roams and preys on innocent victims. In your office, your child's school, and even in the place where you feel most secure - your own home.

You could be its next victim. These killers are deadly diseases. And there is no telling when or where they will strike next.

Worse, you could bring home this deadly disease without you even knowing it. The bad news is that no matter how hard you try to protect them, your family could be in danger. The good news is that there is a solution. You can protect your family from acquiring a deadly disease through vaccination. Read on and learn how this act of prevention can be your family's best defense against infection.

5 Reasons why your family needs vaccination

.. Diseases like Influenza, Hepatitis A and Typhoid Fever can be fatal. A person infected with influenza may succumb to high fever, nausea, and muscle aches, but that doesn't end there. Complications can include pneumonia, dehydration and worsening of medical chronic conditions such as congestive heart failure, asthma or diabetes. Similarly, a person with Typhoid Fever may present symptoms like sustained high fever, stomach pains or loss of appetite. However, it could lead to meningitis, kidney failure, insanity and permanent blindness. Lastly, Hepatitis A may have no-long term effects on a person, but there is no specific treatment for hepatitis A once it is contracted. Ultimately, when left undetected, these diseases may sometimes lead to death.

2. Because these diseases are easily transmittable. A lot of people think that if their family keeps a healthy diet, exercise regularly or take multivitamins everyday, they are safe from contracting harmful diseases. Sadly, these diseases are easily transmittable. Influenza virus spreads in respiratory droplets caused by coughing and sneezing. You can get it by merely touching something with the flu virus and then touching your nose and mouth afterwards. Hepatitis A, on the other hand, is transferred via a fecal-oral route. It spreads from person to person by putting something in the mouth (even though it looks clean) that has been infected by the stool of a person with Hepatitis A. Lastly, You can get typhoid fever if you eat food or drink beverages that have been handled by a person who is shedding Salmonella Typhi virus or if contaminated sewage gets into the water you use for drinking or washing food. Furthermore, these diseases are indiscriminate. It infects anyone regardless of age, gender, social status, built, or race. Unless you have been vaccinated, healthy or not, you can be a target.

3 Because vaccines are not just for kids. A lot of people think that vaccines are just for children. Absolutely not. Diseases such as influenza, hepatitis, typhoid and measles among others affect adults just as much as children. In fact, prevention through vaccination is a vital element in maintaining you and your children's health.

4. Because YOU can be a carrier. Some people who are only "mildly exposed" to harmful viruses may carry no symptoms and in fact be a "carrier", endangering the health of unwitting loved ones and friends. Once you find out that someone's already infected, it may be too late to do something about it.

5. Because you love your family. You'd do everything to keep your family from harm. Superior family protection starts by preventing the disease before it gets a chance to infect you. The World Health Organization estimates that up to 12 million children and adults worldwide could be spared annually from infections and death due to infectious diseases with preventive immunization. Vaccines are the safest medicines available. Getting the recommended vaccination is one of the most effective ways to stay healthy.

If you really love your family, you'll do the right thing. Protect them from deadly diseases by having the whole family vaccinated.

ADVT.

ENTERTAINMEN

Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**
sms feedback: Inquirer ent name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 283 (Smart) **or email us at** pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

Direk Joey terrorizes 'PDA' scholars

And opens a media center for aspiring scriptwriters

HE MINCES **no words: "There's a substantial difference between a celebrity and an artist."** ROMY HOMILLADA

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

SCRIPTWRITER-DIRECTOR Jose Javier Reyes almost didn't accept his job as mentor-tormentor on the ABS-CBN reality talent search, "Pinoy Dream Academy."

He found the offer of Laurenti Dyogi, the show's director, unappealing. "He wanted me to teach songwriting. Number one, I am just a lyricist; not a composer. Second, writing lyrics is visually boring."

With patented honesty, he also told Dyogi: " I hate your show!"

It was precisely Direk Joey's candor that Dyogi wanted the PDA scholars to experience.

"Let me teach performance. And I am going to be brutal," he cautioned Dyogi.

Direk Joey, as he is known in show biz circles, has always been critical of boob-tube talent searches that produce "disposable stars."

"I just want these scholars to realize that there's a substantial difference between being an artist and being a celebrity. Celebrities don't last," he explains to INQUIRER Entertainment.

He shares the observation that among the present crop of scholars, "nobody has the passion, the killer instinct."

"I wanted to impress on these kids that they should take the business of honing their talents seriously. They should not waste televiewers' time, trying to be cute," he quips. "Who cares about the budding romance of Iya (Ginez) and Jay-R (Siaboc)? This is supposed to be about discovering and developing artists."

He assesses the batch. "If the range is 'good, very good, excellent and wow,' most of the scholars are just good. Some are very good. But no one will make you stand up and exclaim wow!"

When it comes to criticizing the kids, he doesn't mince words.

He admonished Chad Peralta for not memorizing the words to the song "If."

"There is no excuse for mediocrity, for not rehearsing when the others found the time," he told the rocker.

Another scholar RJ Jimenez admitted that he had felt bad about Direk Joey's "scathing" review. "I told him that I was not condemning him; I was judging his performance," Direk Joey recounts.

His first two sessions did so well that Dyogi asked Direk Joey to "terrorize" the scholars in two more episodes. "The challenge now is to come up with more challenging exercises. Our next session will be a pure vocal performance. No embellishments. No dancing. Just pure voice."

The thing is, Direk Joey worked as a teacher in De La Salle before becoming an award-winning scriptwriter-director.

"My students loved me because I was honest," he recalls.

He is also opening a scriptwriting school, Imagine Nation Media Center on Scout Tuazon, Quezon City. "I will start offering seminars and enhancement courses to 12 pre-screened participants soon. We will offer basic and advanced TV writing and basic and advanced film writing," he says.

Just like in PDA, his goal in forming the center is "to train a new generation of media practitioners that will break the template, but will continue the tradition of professionalism and excellence at the same time," he concludes.

Who is Regine's mysterious beau?

DOLLY WOOD

Dolly Anne Carvajal

• PEOPLE ARE WONDERING who the mysterious boyfriend of Regine Velasquez is. Out of the blue, the Songbird announced that she has a longtime beau. Naughty observers claim that he could be Ogie Alcasid. Considering how famous she is, it's quite strange how she managed to shield her BF from the limelight all this time. Unless he's some fictitious character in one of her movies.

• According to a GMA 7 insider, Robin Padilla is determined to snatch Regine away from her BF. Binoe feels that Regine's sweetness is a go-signal. Will his wife Liezl Sicangco flash the red light all the way from Australia? By now, she must be used to being stuck in Binoe's bumper-to-bumper traffic of women!

• DJ MO Twister is treading on dangerous ground. He has caught the ire of show biz veterans Lolit Solis and Annabelle Rama for unsavory remarks he said on the air. Mo is questioning Tita Lolit's credibility. He also insinuated that Tita Annabelle's son Raymond is gay. The word war is on! Yak yak yak turns into yuck yuck yuck!

• I teased Gina Alajar, "Welcome to the Club! You're now officially single again." (Her marriage to Michael de Mesa has been annulled). Just like me, she has no plans of remarrying. We share the same sentiments. "Once is enough!"

• My *kumareng* Janice de Belen is excited about moving to her new place. "It's simple. The way I like it. *Hirap lang* to pack stuff. Now *ko lang na*-realize how much junk I have!" Does this signal the start of a brand new life? Is remarriage on her agenda? "Not yet. The house is for me and my kids. *Sarap ng* feeling *na* I'm the queen in my own home. *Saka na ang* king!"

G goes international

G TONGI returns to the silver screen in the international film "Wages of Sin," which will be shot here in the Philippines, to be shown next year. Directed by Shane Trace and co-starring Fil-Am actor Neil "Xingu" Rodil, it's a martial arts movie that delves into the world of the black market. For the first time, our local *arnis* will be featured in a Hollywood film. Shane is on the lookout for Pinoy talents and crew for the project.

G is bent on penetrating the international market. "I don't really have to work because my husband Tim provides for me and our daughter Sakura. But I just want to. I'm lucky Tim is very supportive. He lets me pursue my dreams." Judging by how happy she looks, G has found her G-force of inspiration in marriage and motherhood.

Triangle angle

THE ROMANTIC triumvirate of Dennis Trillo, Angel Locsin and Oyo Boy Sotto comes to the big screen in Regal and APT Entertainment's "TXT." It's a modern Pinoy ghost story where cellphones and computers can be the stuff of nightmares.

Angel plays Joyce, a caregiver grieving the death of her boyfriend, Roman (Oyo). She tries to discover the truth behind Roman's frightening text messages with the help of her friend Dennis (Alex). In an uncanny way, the plot resembles events in Angel's life. Her BF Mico Sotto passed away and Oyo (her close friend before becoming her beau) mourned with her. The angle about Angel being in a love triangle with Dennis and Oyo has been repeatedly scrutinized. But the public can't seem to get enough of the *tres amores*. With Angel, Oyo and Dennis, three is not a crowd. They just keep drawing the crowds in!

Pinoy animation

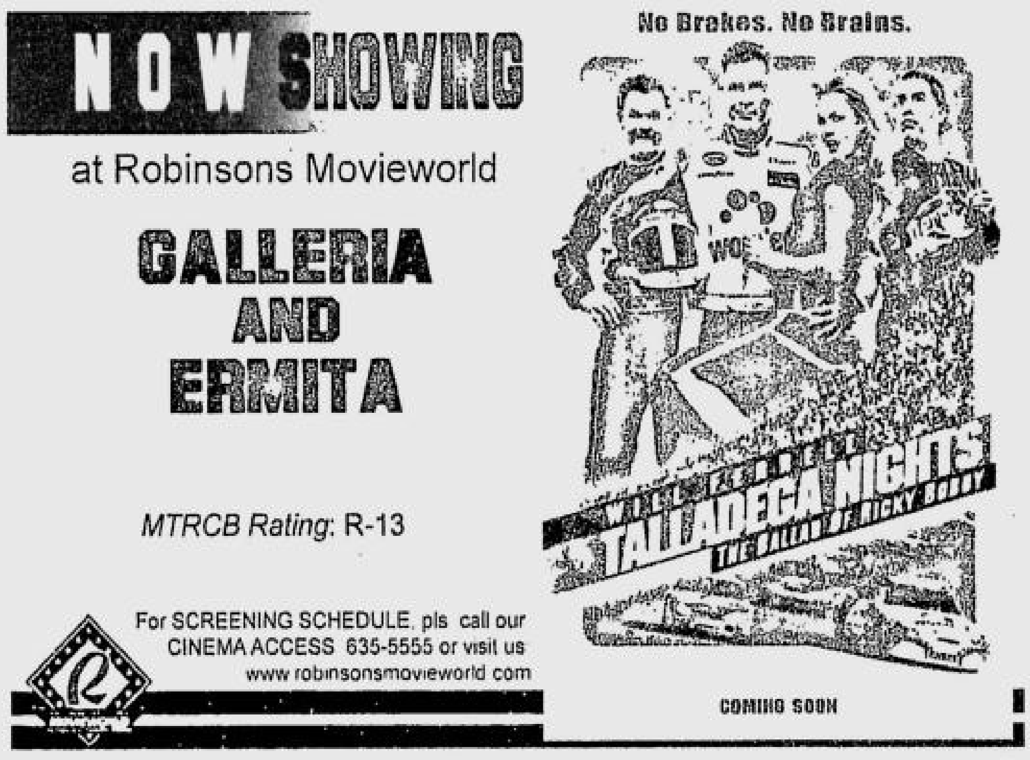
TO CELEBRATE the pride and honor that Filipino cartoonists and animators have brought to our country, "The First Filipino Animation Awards" will be staged on Dec. 4 at the Grand Ballroom of Hotel Intercon. It is organized by United Animation Inc. and United Staffing Registry headed by Ben Santos, with United Home Care led by Baby Lantin and the Mowelfund. Topping the list of awardees are Dolphy for "Captain Barbell," Vilma Santos for "Dama" and Fernando Poe Jr. for "Ang Panday."

Abnormal ratings?

ABS-CBN prime time programs, according to a text message from one of its marketing executives, reportedly won over all their GMA counterparts last Tuesday (Oct. 3) and Wednesday (Oct. 4). But since AGB Nielsen is able to provide the ratings data only until Oct. 3, does this mean that ABS-CBN is being given special treatment?

Also, the Oct. 3 overnight ratings data for Mega Manila from AGB Nielsen clearly contradict ABS-CBN's claim that all its prime time programs beat their GMA rivals. Though some got the better of their GMA counterparts due to their abnormal cable ratings, it was nowhere near a sweep by the Kapamilya programs.

E-mail wateringholeshangrila@yahoo.com.



NOW SHOWING
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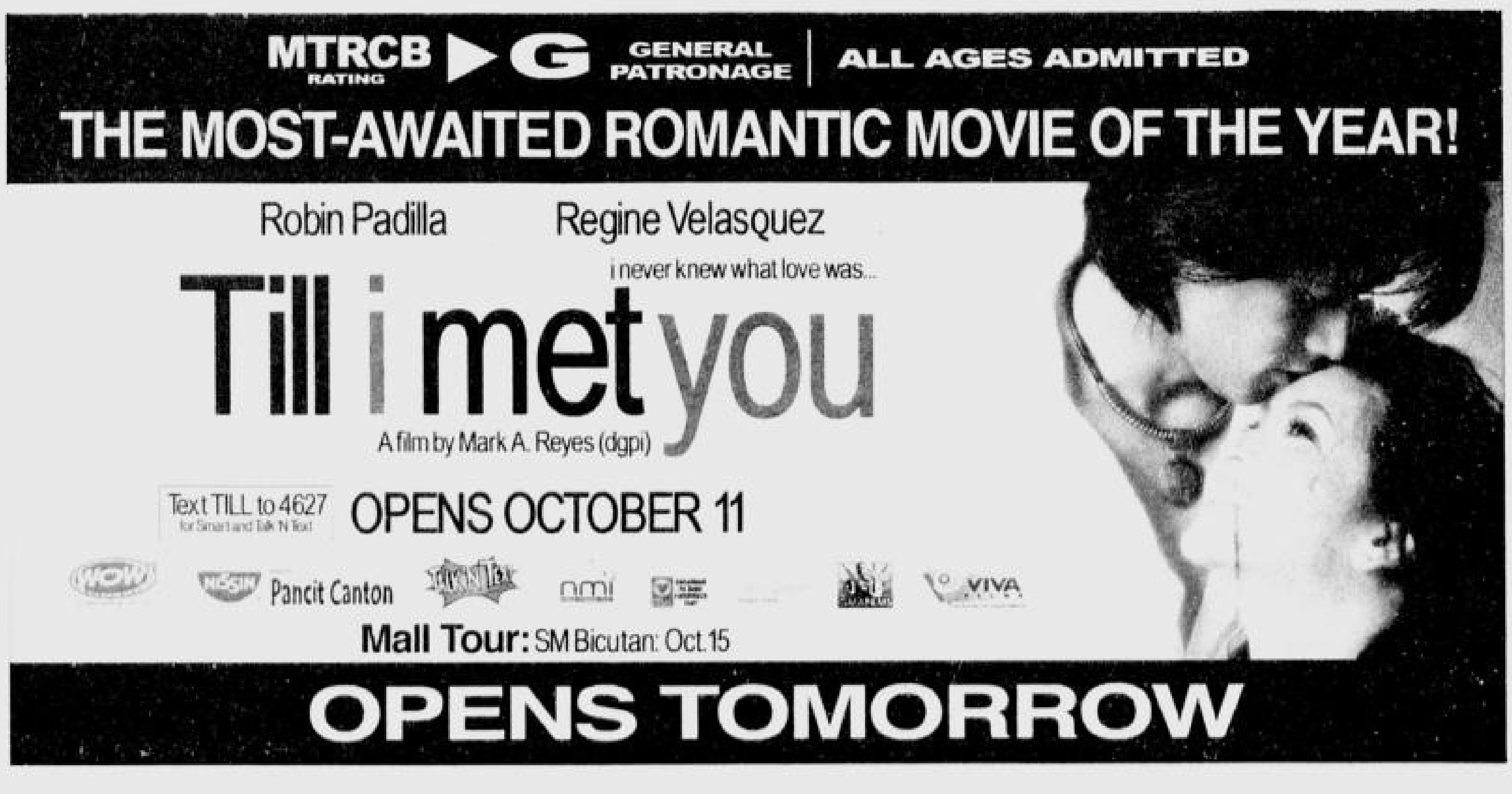
GALLERIA AND ERMITA
MTRCB Rating: R-13
For SCREENING SCHEDULE, pls call our CINEMA ACCESS 635-5555 or visit us www.robinsonsmovieworld.com
No Brakes. No Brains.
TALLADEGA NIGHTS
COMING SOON

BARNYARD
MTRCB RATING G FOR GENERAL AUDIENCE
Distributed by Solar Entertainment Corporation
BarnyardMovie.com
THE ORIGINAL PARTY ANIMALS
OPENS TOMORROW

MTRCB RATING PG-13 | children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
#1 MOVIE IN MANILA
NO RULES. NO MERCY. NO SURRENDER
3RD WEEK
DOA DEAD OR ALIVE
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF "THE TRANSPORTER"



MTRCB RATING G GENERAL PATRONAGE | ALL AGES ADMITTED
THE MOST-AWAITED ROMANTIC MOVIE OF THE YEAR!
Robin Padilla Regine Velasquez
i never knew what love was...
Till i met you
A film by Mark A. Reyes (dgpi)
Text TILL to 4627 for Smart and Talk 'N Text
OPENS OCTOBER 11
Pancit Canton
VIVA
Mall Tour: SM Bicutan: Oct.15
OPENS TOMORROW

Heroism in the wild, blue yonder

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

DEAN DEVLIN'S LATEST PRODUCTION, "Flyboys," is currently playing in local theaters, delighting war and adventure buffs with its tale of heroism and high-flying dogfights in the wild, blue yonder.

Set during the First World War before the United States officially joined the escalating fray, Tony Bill's film zeroes in on two small group of Americans trained in France to pilot small planes that engaged Germany's air force in a lopsided series of battles for aerial supremacy.

The "unofficial" nature of the endeavor makes it less epic in scope, but it gains plus points in terms of characterization and consequent audience empathy.

In other words, since the pilot's tales are more individual in orientation, the viewing experience becomes more personal and affecting.

Taking advantage of this predisposition, the movie, which is generally based on actual incidents, appears to take liberties with its material, adding unique touches in the name of artistic license.

Some of this is OK, because it generates added interest in what could have been a rather stodgy state of affairs. But "Flyboys" appears to have added too many fanciful touches, because it presents us with too many exotic characters and incidents for comfort.

For instance, the young American pilots include a man whose hand is chopped off by another pilot to free him after his plane crashes. Despite his ending up with only a hook for a hand, the disabled pilot flies a plane at film's end, in time to save his colleague from being shot up by a feared German ace pilot!

Other unlikely events and characters pepper the movie, adding to its interest quotient—but drastically reducing its believability.

To compensate, the film generates genuine excitement with its imaginative and daring "dogfight" sequences. Some of these high-flying scenes' digital additions show, but they are generally compelling and bring true derring-do back to the jaded movie screen.

Bloody business

Yes, those were the days when mortal foes were still bound by rules of gentlemanly conduct. War *was* a bloody business, but the desperate struggle for victory didn't reduce combatants to the level of beasts.

This was particularly true with pilots, who regarded themselves as knights of the air, engaging in noble jousts—and sometimes even sparing an enemy pilot's life, out of a sense of military *noblesse oblige*.

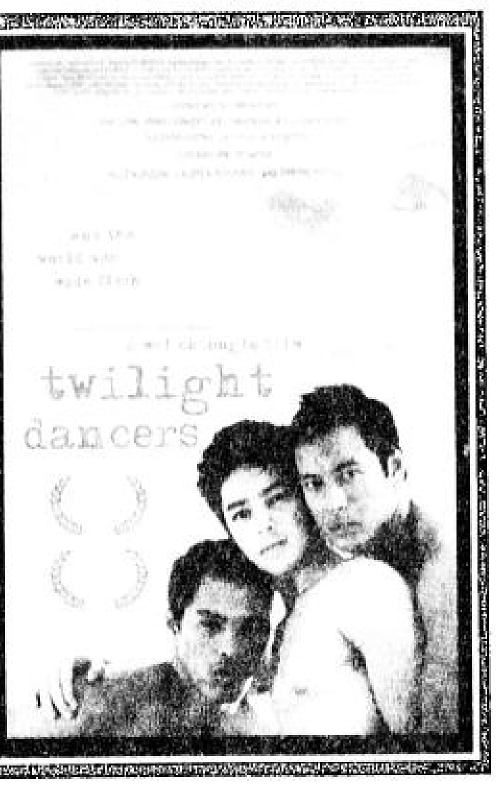
That's no longer the case, of course, so period movies like "Flyboys" serve as a timely reminder of a more noble time gone by.

In terms of performance, however, the film is on the overwrought and melodramatic side.

This is particularly true of the subplot involving a pilot's rescue of a young Frenchwoman and her orphaned nephews and niece from invading German troops.

The aerial rescue is improbable, as is the Frenchwoman's ability to learn how to speak English in an impressively short time—the better to speed up her romantic scenes with her pilot-savior.

So, see "Flyboy" for its "dogfight" sequences, recollections of a noble time gone by, and some interesting characterizations, but don't expect to be deeply moved by its dramatic highlights, and its insights into life, love and war.


now showing
at Robinsons Movieworld
galleria • ermita • imus • dasmariñas
sta. rosa • starmills, pampanga
angeles • iloilo

Twilight Dancers offers a disturbing yet humurous look at Philippine social realities through the eyes of three macho dancers. Dwight, young and at the peak of his trade, loses the girl he loves to a politician's son Alfred, at 28, is past his prime and is kicked out of the club when the film starts. Bert, 30, has long since given up dancing, and is now the bodyguard-driver of a corrupt yet jolly businesswoman Madame Loca

starring:
Cherry Pie Picache, Allen Dizon, Lauren Novero and Tyron Perez

MTRCB Rating: R-18
For Screening Schedule, pls. contact our CINEMA ACCESS: 535-5555 or visit us www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

ARANETA CENTER
Gateway Ali MALL FarmersPlaza

THE ONLY CINEPLEX IN THE COUNTRY · Gateway CINEPLEX*10 · FULL STADIUM SEATING

PULSE 30 / 3:35 / 5:40 / 7:45 / 9:50
THE DEPARTED 12:10 / 3:20 / 6:30 / 9:40
TALLADEGA NIGHTS 2:00 / 4:30 / 7:00 / 9:30
ZOOM 1:00 / 3:10 / 7:30
FIRST DAY HIGH 2:10 / 4:40 / 7:10 / 9:40
STEP UP 2:00 / 4:30 / 7:00 / 9:30
DOLBY DIGITAL-EX
JOHN TUCKER MUST DIE 5:20 / 9:40
DEAD OR ALIVE 1:25 / 3:30 / 5:35 / 7:40 / 9:45
THE DEPARTED 2:40 / 5:50 / 9:00

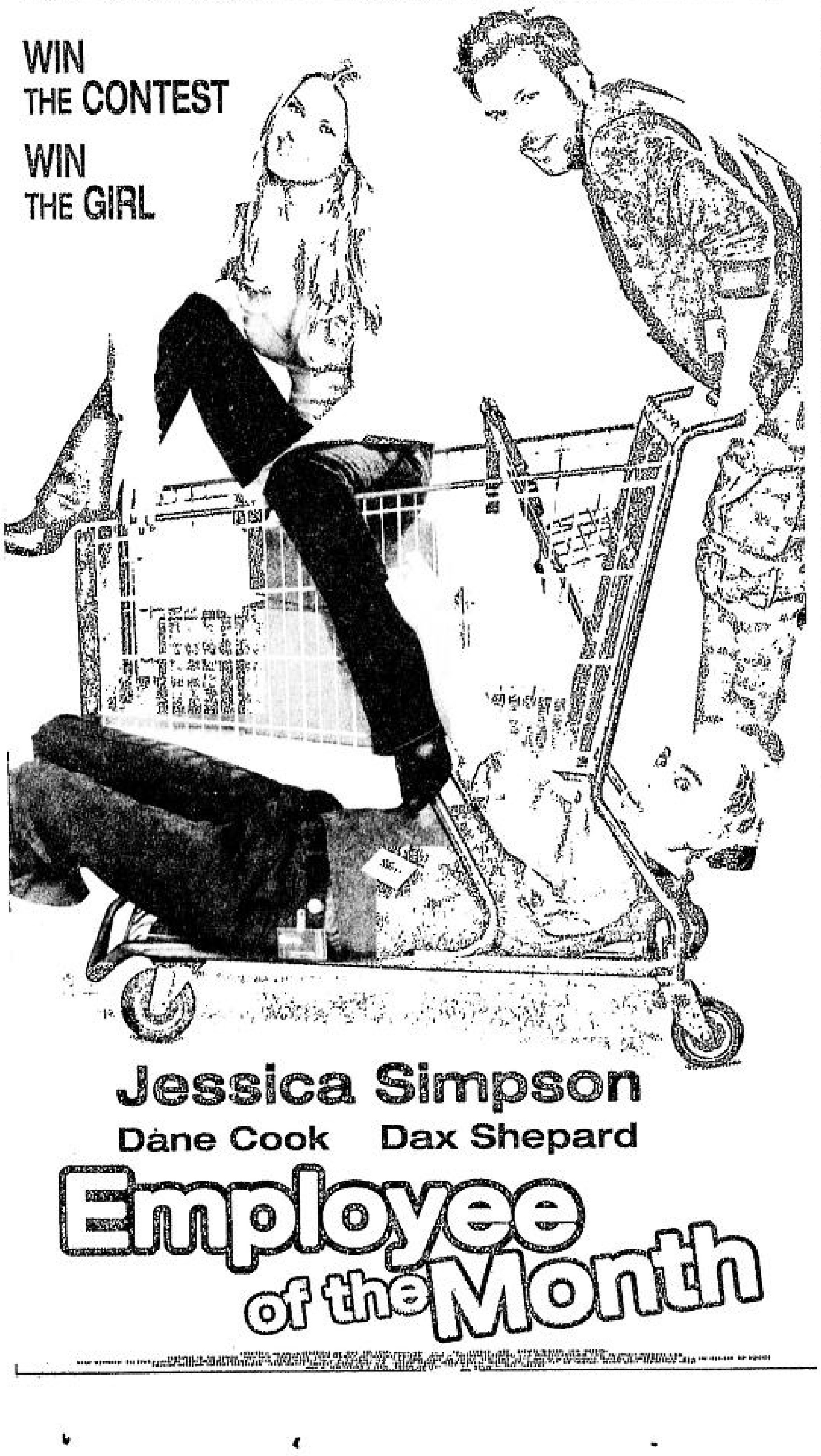
Ali MALL 5
THE DEPARTED 1:40 / 4:50 / 8:00
STEP UP 12:40 / 3:10 / 5:40 / 8:10
PULSE 12:25 / 2:30 / 4:35 / 6:40 / 8:45
FIRST DAY HIGH [illegible] / 3:30 / 5:50 / 8:20
DEAD OR ALIVE 12:20 / 2:25 / 4:30 / 6:35 / 8:40
DOLBY DIGITAL DTS SDDS

For ticket inquiries, please call TicketNet at 911-5555 or log on to www.ticketnet.com.ph

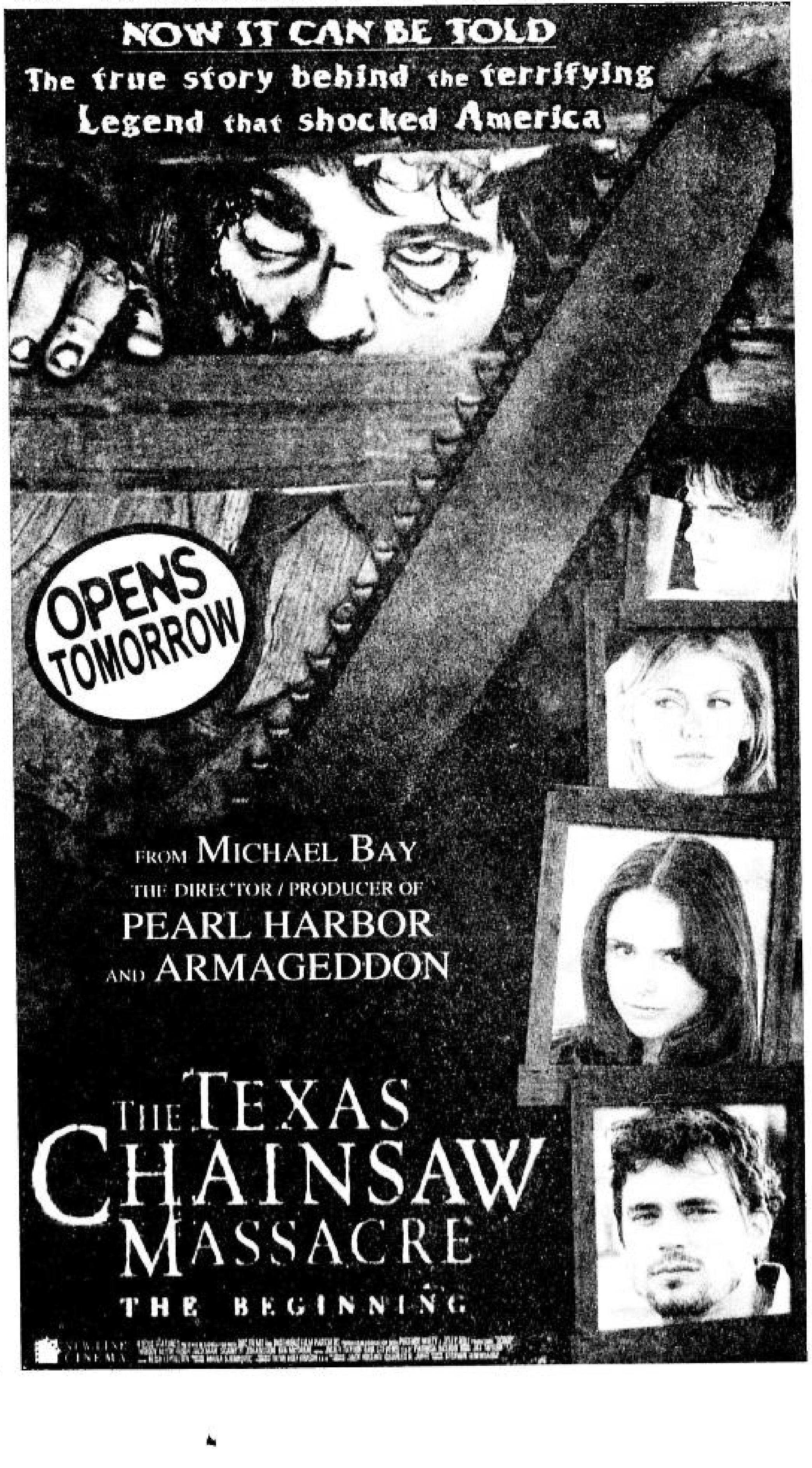
ARANETA COLISEUM
TWENTY - REGINE VELASQUEZ CONCERT ! October 13 & 14, Friday & Saturday - 8 pm
WWE SMACKDOWN SURVIVOR SERIES TOUR ! October 21, Sat. 6 pm & October 22, Sun 4 pm

WEDDING ADVISORY: A MUST-SEE MOVIE FOR THOSE WHO ARE PLANNING TO GET MARRIED SOON.
The FUNNIEST and CRAZIEST wedding comedy of the year from the company that gave you 'NOTTING HILL'!
To Win Her Heart, He Must Come Up with the Perfect Disguise.
RACHAEL LEIGH COOK (star of "Nancy Drew")
KENNY DOUGHTY (star of "The Great Raid")
OPENS TOMORROW
my first wedding
LAUGH TILL YOU DROP!

NEXT ATTRACTION
From the producers of "WEDDING CRASHERS"



THE #1 HORROR MOVIE IN AMERICA



NOW IT CAN BE TOLD
The true story behind the terrifying Legend that shocked America
OPENS TOMORROW
FROM MICHAEL BAY
THE DIRECTOR / PRODUCER OF
PEARL HARBOR AND ARMAGEDDON
THE TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE
THE BEGINNING
NEW LINE CINEMA

New 'Sine'skwela' kid

JOHN MANALO OF ABS-CBN's "Going Bulilit," plays the role of Pepe in the new season of the network's educational program "Sine'skwela."

John is the 10-year-old friend and neighbor of Shiela Mae Junsay, who plays Binhi. Binhi has a brother named Kuya Buhawi, portrayed by theater actor Bombi Plata.

Kuya Buhawi is a teacher-like character who guides the two as they follow and learn the scientific process in order to come up with a conclusion.

The show airs Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Studio 23.

JOHN Manalo

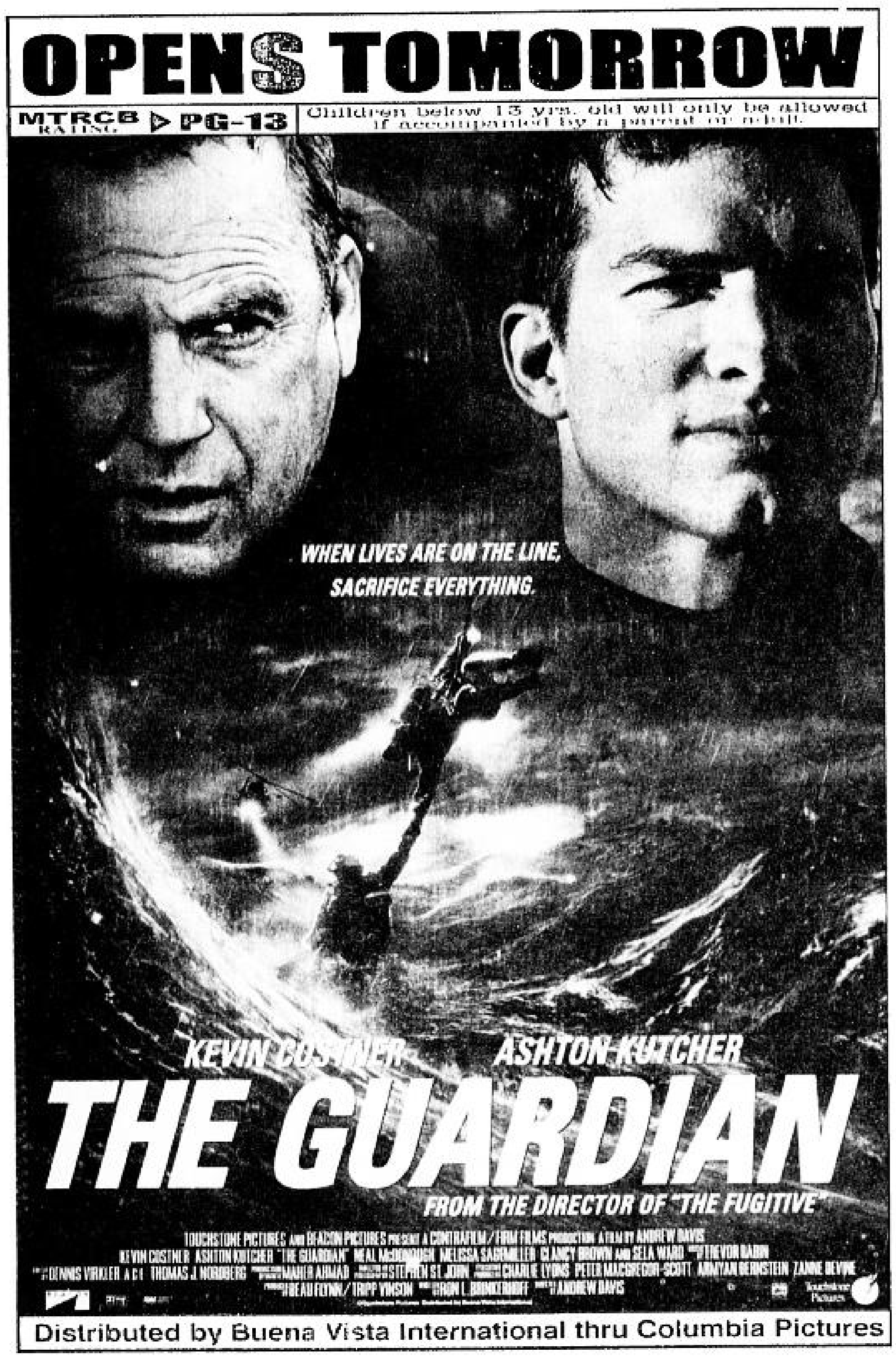
KID FIT

'Bob the Builder'

Kids can learn the values of teamwork and having a positive attitude in new episodes of "Bob the Builder" on Playhouse Disney Channel every weekend at 3 p.m.

Bob the Builder knows that the fun is in getting the job done. Along with his original partner Wendy and his can-do crew—Scoop the digger, Muck the digger/dumper, Lofty the crane, Roley the steamroller and Dizzy the cement mixer—Bob has been getting jobs done all over Bobsville and beyond.

No matter what the job, he always has the right tools—teamwork and a positive attitude.



OPENS TOMORROW

MTRCB RATING ▷ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

WHEN LIVES ARE ON THE LINE, SACRIFICE EVERYTHING.

KEVIN COSTNER ASHTON KUTCHER

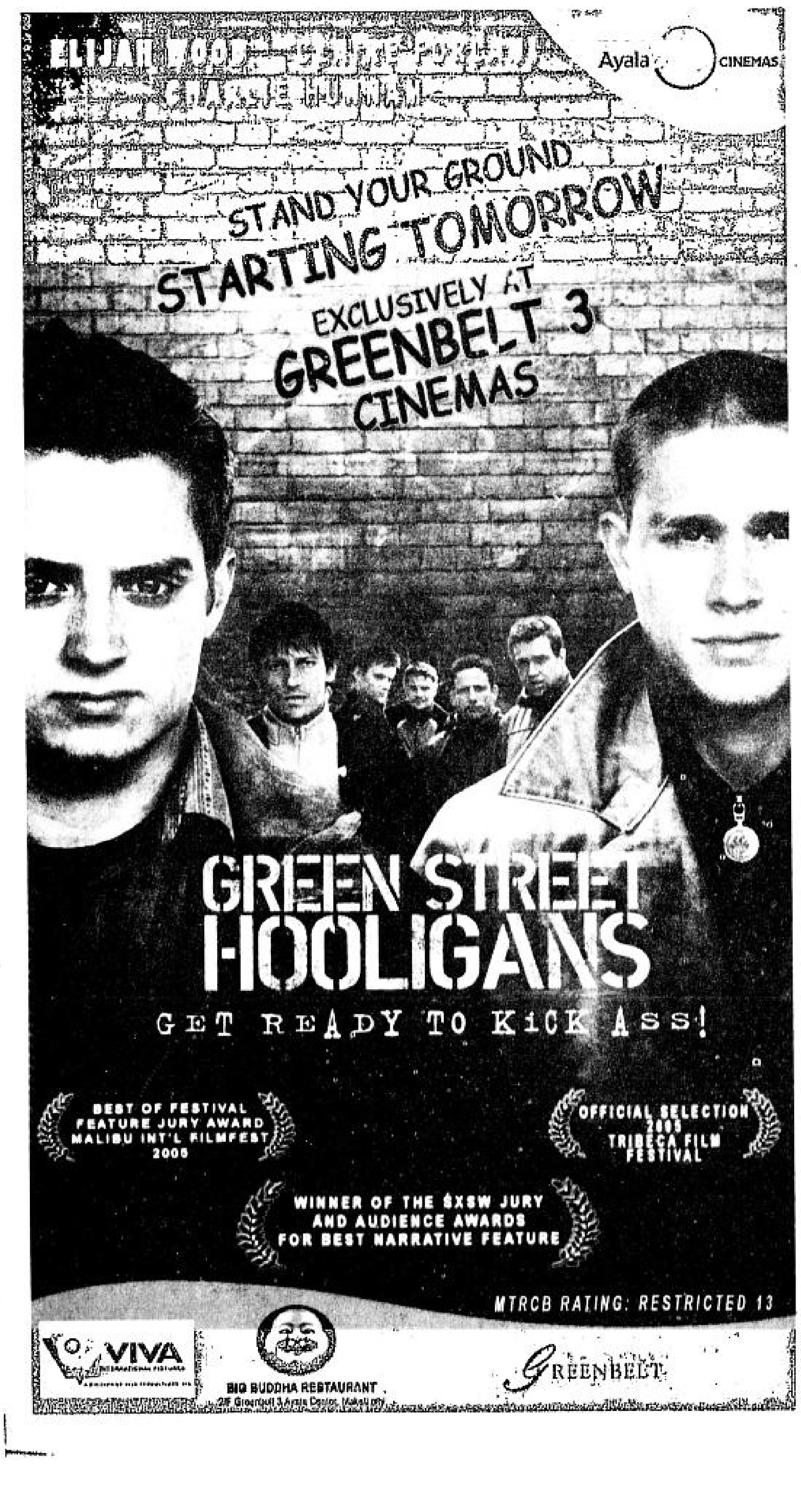
THE GUARDIAN

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF "THE FUGITIVE"

TOUCHSTONE PICTURES AND BEACON PICTURES PRESENT A CONTRAFILM / FIRM FILMS PRODUCTION A FILM BY ANDREW DAVIS

KEVIN COSTNER ASHTON KUTCHER "THE GUARDIAN" NEAL McDONOUGH MELISSA SAGEMILLER CLANCY BROWN AND SELA WARD TREVOR RABIN DENNIS VIRKLER A.C.E. THOMAS J. NORDBERG MAHER AHMAD STEPHEN ST. JOHN CHARLIE LYONS PETER MACGREGOR-SCOTT ARMYAN BERNSTEIN ZANNE DEVINE BEAU FLYNN / TRIPP VINSON RON L. BRINKERHOFF ANDREW DAVIS

Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures



ELIJAH WOOD CHARLIE HUNNAM

Ayala CINEMAS

STAND YOUR GROUND

STARTING TOMORROW

EXCLUSIVELY AT GREENBELT 3 CINEMAS

GREEN STREET HOOLIGANS

GET READY TO KICK ASS!

BEST OF FESTIVAL FEATURE JURY AWARD MALIBU INT'L FILMFEST 2005

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2005 TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL

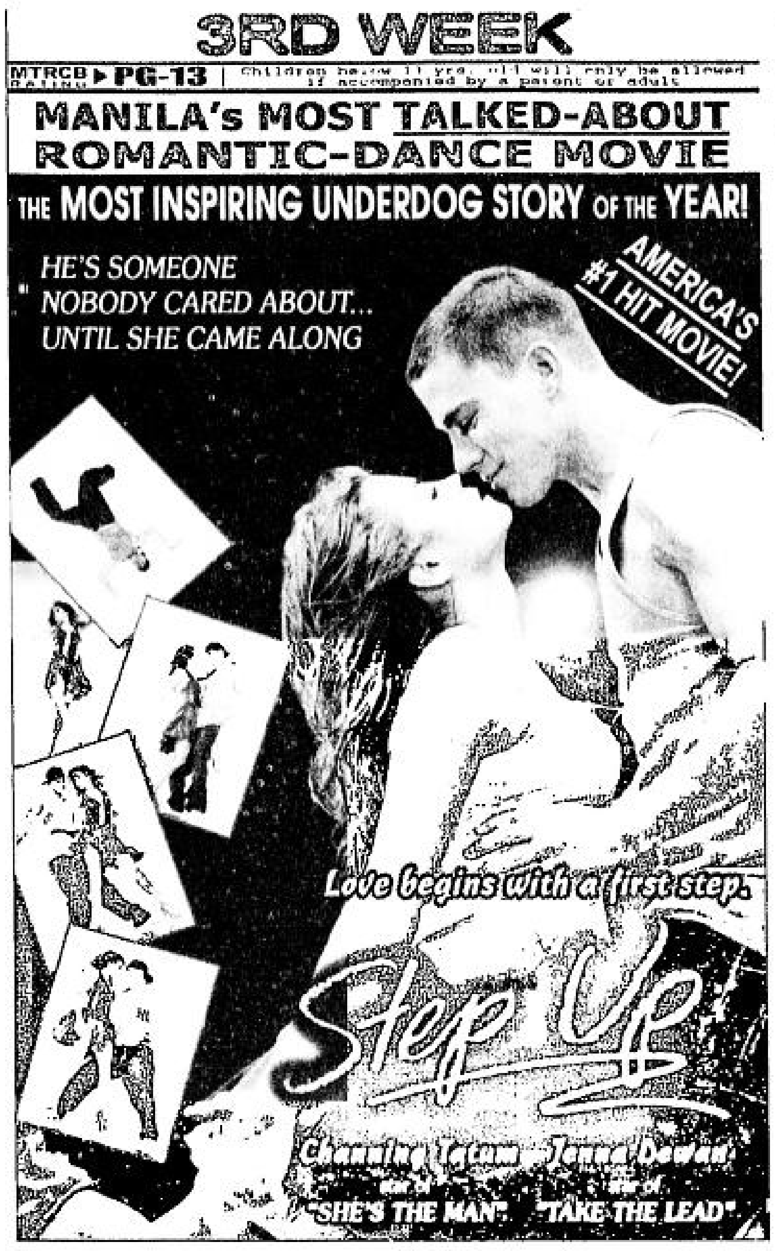
WINNER OF THE SXSW JURY AND AUDIENCE AWARDS FOR BEST NARRATIVE FEATURE

MTRCB RATING: RESTRICTED 13

VIVA

BIG BUDDHA RESTAURANT

GREENBELT



3RD WEEK

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

MANILA's MOST TALKED-ABOUT ROMANTIC-DANCE MOVIE

THE MOST INSPIRING UNDERDOG STORY OF THE YEAR!

HE'S SOMEONE NOBODY CARED ABOUT... UNTIL SHE CAME ALONG

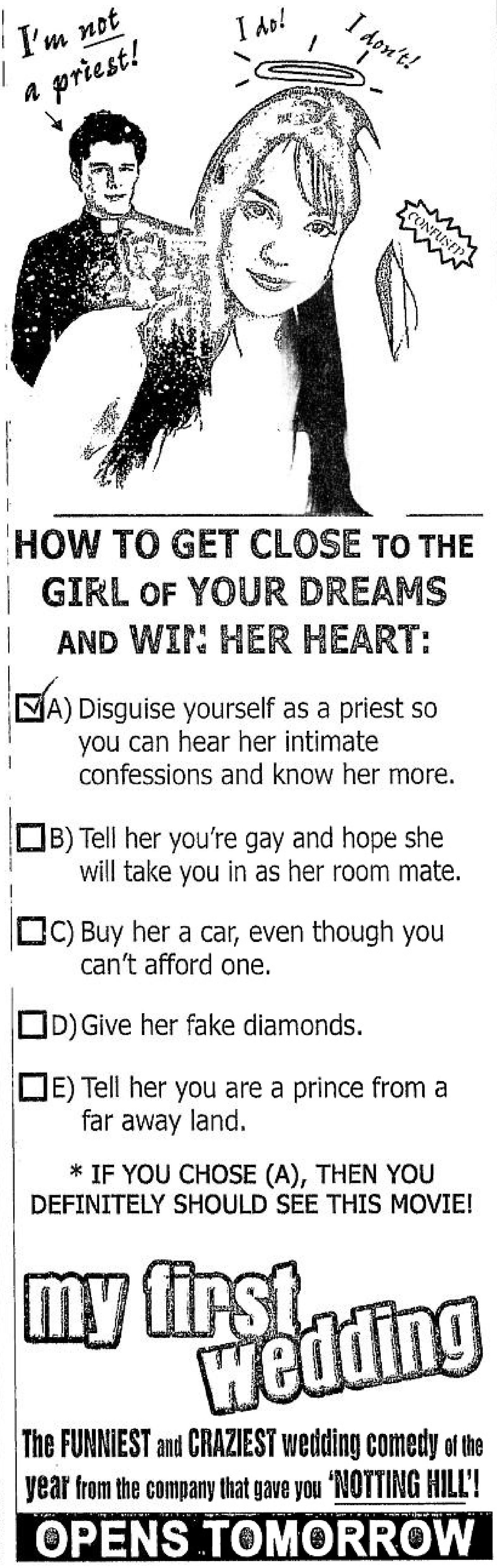
AMERICA'S #1 HIT MOVIE!

Love begins with a first step.

Step Up

Channing Tatum Jenna Dewan

"SHE'S THE MAN" "TAKE THE LEAD"



I'm not a priest!

I do!

I don't!

CONFUSED

HOW TO GET CLOSE TO THE GIRL OF YOUR DREAMS AND WIN HER HEART:

☑ A) Disguise yourself as a priest so you can hear her intimate confessions and know her more.

☐ B) Tell her you're gay and hope she will take you in as her room mate.

☐ C) Buy her a car, even though you can't afford one.

☐ D) Give her fake diamonds.

☐ E) Tell her you are a prince from a far away land.

* IF YOU CHOSE (A), THEN YOU DEFINITELY SHOULD SEE THIS MOVIE!

my first wedding

The FUNNIEST and CRAZIEST wedding comedy of the year from the company that gave you 'NOTTING HILL'!

OPENS TOMORROW

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

SM CINEPLEX

1 THE DEPARTED
2 TALLADEGA NIGHTS
3 PULSE
4 STEP UP

PREMIERE

ZOOM

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216

1 THE DEPARTED
2 FLY BOYS
3 FIRST DAY HIGH
4 ZOOM

starmall
(Mandaluyong) tel. 7266150

3 FIRST DAY HIGH
4 FLY BOYS
5 TWILIGHT DANCERS

metropolis star
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(ALABANG) tel 8504285, 5433994

1 FIRST DAY HIGH
2 PULSE
3 THE DEPARTED
4 POSSESSED BY EVIL

THEATRES

SNAKE ON A PLANE
FIRST DAY HIGH
3 JOHN TUCKER MUST DIE

PACIFIC MALL LUCENA CINEMAGIC

1 JOHN TUCKER MUST DIE
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 STEP UP
2 ZOOM
3 THE DEPARTED
4 THE DEPARTED
5 FLY BOYS
6 PULSE
7 FIRST DAY HIGH
8 DEAD OR ALIVE
9 YOU ME & DUPREE
10 THE BREED

Blue Wave
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sta. Nino, Marikina City tel. 9341927

1 FIRST DAY HIGH
2 PULSE
3 THE DEPARTED
4 RESERVED

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto tel 7334228

1 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
2 THE DEPARTED
3 FIRST DAY HIGH
4 TWILIGHT DANCERS
5 DEAD OR ALIVE

MARKET! MARKET!
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1 FIRST DAY HIGH
2 MORTUARY
3 YOU ME & DUPREE
4 RESERVED

Maragana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274

1 FIRST DAY HIGH
2 FLY BOYS
3 PULSE

Center Mall Cinema
Baguio Center Mall, Magsaysay Avenue (Baguio City) tel (074)- (4449346)

1 TWILIGHT DANCERS
2 THE DEPARTED

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887 5001 to 03

1 FIRST DAY HIGH
2 THE DEPARTED
3 TWILIGHT DANCERS
4 STEP UP

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1 SNAKE ON A PLANE
2 FIRST DAY HIGH

CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C 5) Quezon City) tel 687 6963 or 72

1 STEP UP / FLY BOYS
2 THE DEPARTED
3 TALLADEGA NIGHT
4 ZOOM

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1 BUTTERFLY EFFECT
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 CRANK
4 RESERVED

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Binan) tel (049) 4111146

1 BUTTERFLY EFFECT
2 FLY BOYS
3 YOU ME & DUPREE
4 FIRST DAY HIGH

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1 ZOOM
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 THE WICKER MAN

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729

1 FIRST DAY HIGH
2 CRANK
3 ZOOM
4 THE WICKER MAN

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Mandel) tel (044) 795 3320

1 SNAKE ON A PLANE
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 STORMBREAKER

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Gapan) tel. (044) 4867736

1 FIRST DAY HIGH
2 BINIBINING K

Lianas Cinema
(Pasig) tel 640.4748

1 VERDICT
2 CRANK

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 CRANK
WALANG DAYAAN AKIN AND MALAKI
3 NAGLALAYAG
4 POSSESSED BY EVIL

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 STAY ALIVE
2 SINFUL NIGHT
3 FIRST DAY HIGH
4 CRANK
5 BUTTERFLY EFFECT-2

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1 ZOOM
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 DEAD OR ALIVE
4 THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA

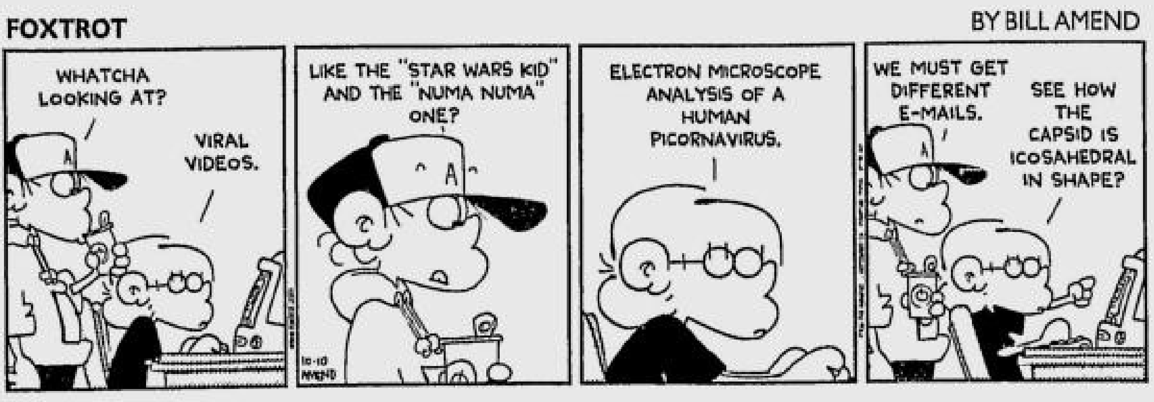
Bernia Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

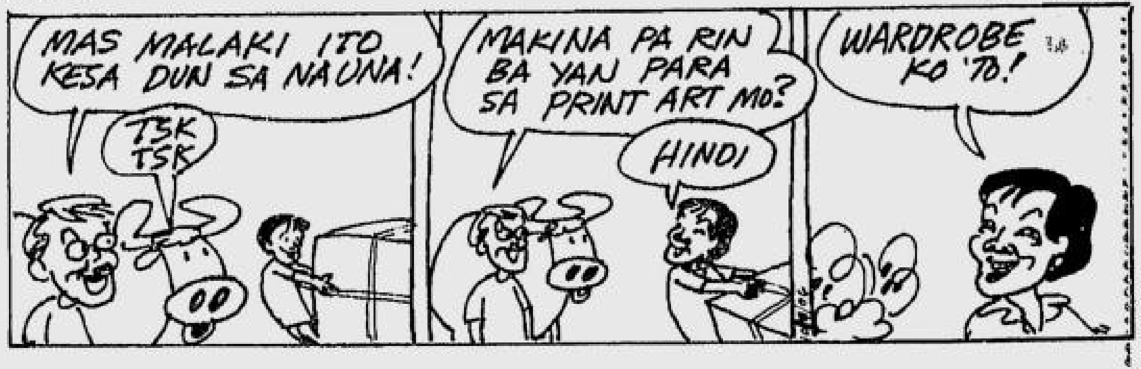
FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


WHATCHA LOOKING AT?
VIRAL VIDEOS.
LIKE THE "STAR WARS KID" AND THE "NUMA NUMA" ONE?
ELECTRON MICROSCOPE ANALYSIS OF A HUMAN PICORNAVIRUS.
WE MUST GET DIFFERENT E-MAILS.
SEE HOW THE CAPSID IS ICOSAHEDRAL IN SHAPE?
10-10
AMEND

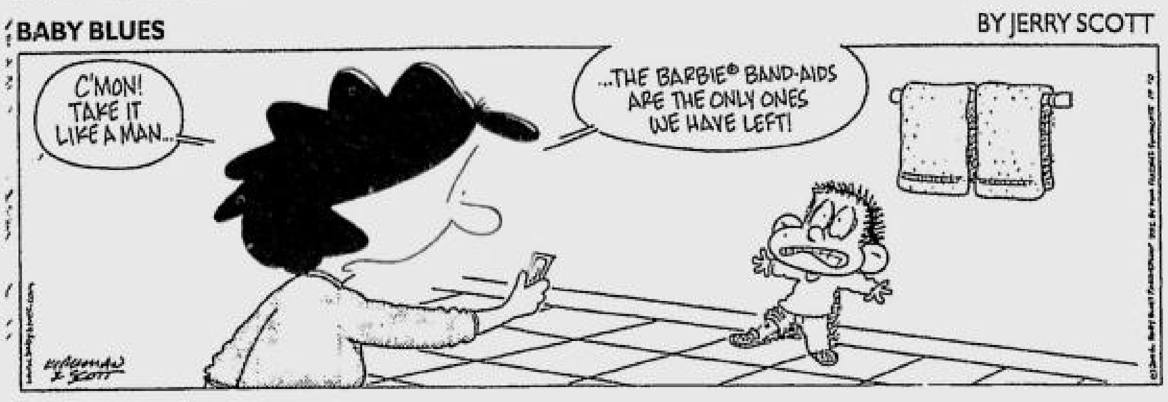
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


MAS MALAKI ITO KESA DUN SA NAUNA!
TSK TSK
MAKINA PA RIN BA YAN PARA SA PRINT ART MO?
HINDI
WARDROBE KO '70!

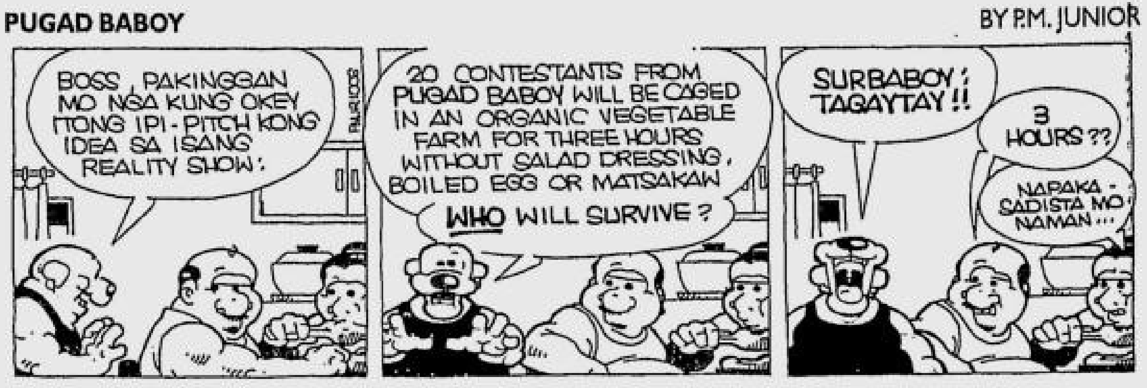
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


C'MON! TAKE IT LIKE A MAN...
...THE BARBIE® BAND-AIDS ARE THE ONLY ONES WE HAVE LEFT!
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

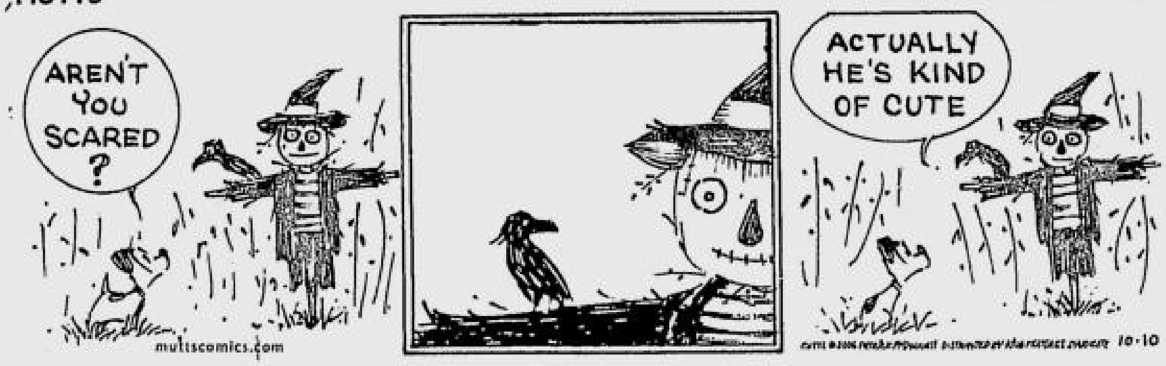
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


BOSS, PAKINGGAN MO NGA KUNG OKEY ITONG IPI-PITCH KONG IDEA SA ISANG REALITY SHOW:
20 CONTESTANTS FROM PUGAD BABOY WILL BE CAGED IN AN ORGANIC VEGETABLE FARM FOR THREE HOURS WITHOUT SALAD DRESSING, BOILED EGG OR MATSAKAW
WHO WILL SURVIVE?
SURBABOY: TAGAYTAY!!
3 HOURS??
NAPAKA-SADISTA MO NAMAN...

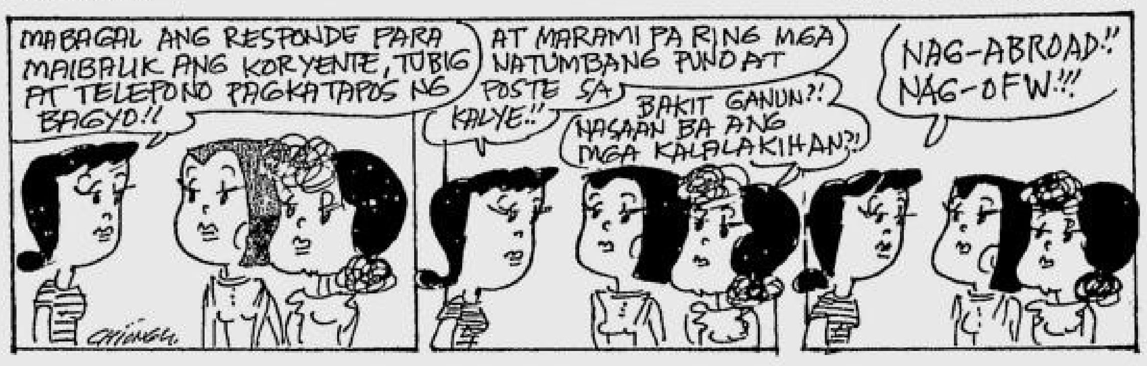
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


AREN'T YOU SCARED ?
ACTUALLY HE'S KIND OF CUTE
muttscomics.com
10-10

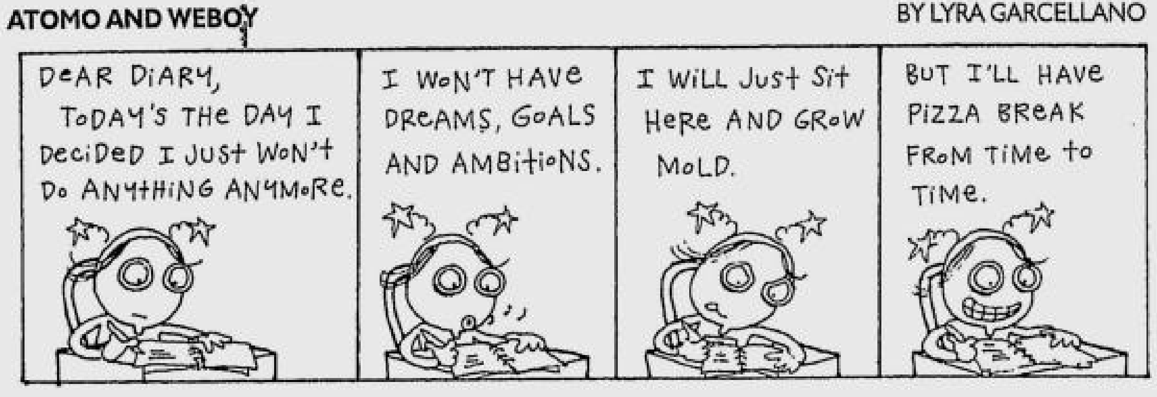
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


MABAGAL ANG RESPONDE PARA MAIBALIK ANG KORYENTE, TUBIG AT TELEPONO PAGKATAPOS NG BAGYO!!
AT MARAMI PA RING MGA NATUMBANG PUNO AT POSTE SA KALYE!!
BAKIT GANUN?! NASAAN BA ANG MGA KALALAKIHAN?!
NAG-ABROAD!! NAG-OFW!!!
CHIONGLO

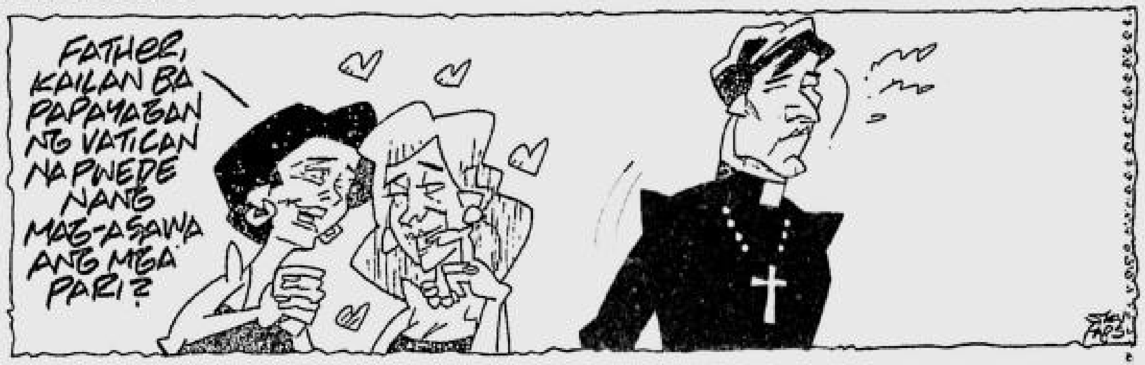
ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


DEAR DIARY, TODAY'S THE DAY I DECIDED I JUST WON'T DO ANYTHING ANYMORE.
I WON'T HAVE DREAMS, GOALS AND AMBITIONS.
I WILL JUST SIT HERE AND GROW MOLD.
BUT I'LL HAVE PIZZA BREAK FROM TIME TO TIME.

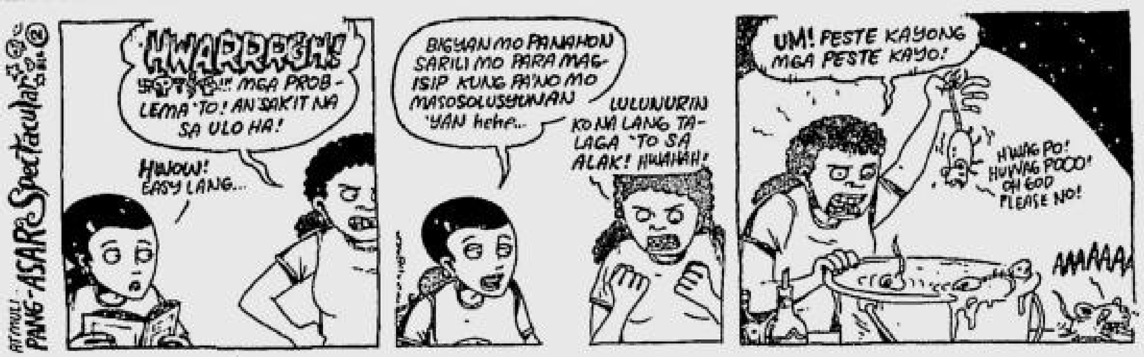
DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS


FATHER, KAILAN BA PAPAYAGAN NG VATICAN NA PWEDE NANG MAG-ASAWA ANG MGA PARI?

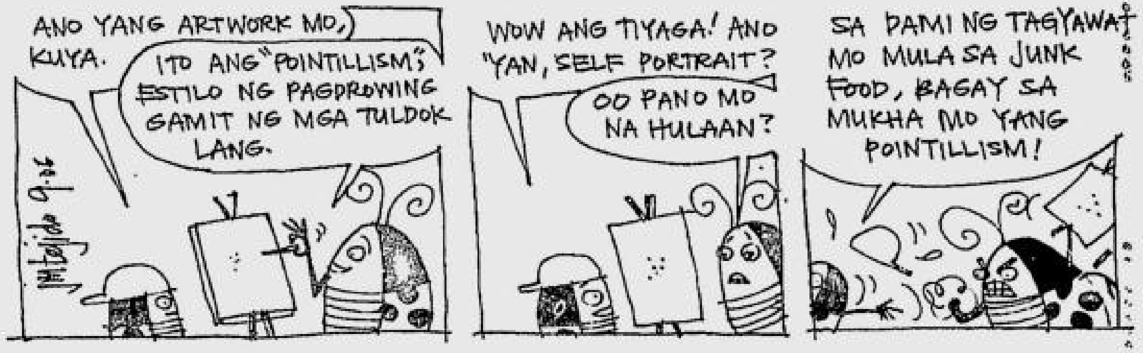
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


ATMUL! PANG-ASAR Spectacular
HWARRRGH!!! MGA PROBLEMA 'TO! AN SAKIT NA SA ULO HA!
HWOW! EASY LANG...
BIGYAN MO PANAHON SARILI MO PARA MAG-ISIP KUNG PA'NO MO MASOSOLUSYUNAN 'YAN hehe...
LULUNURIN KO NA LANG TALAGA 'TO SA ALAK! HWAHAH!
UM! PESTE KAYONG MGA PESTE KAYO!
HWAG PO! HUWAG POOO' OH GOD PLEASE NO!
AAAAAA

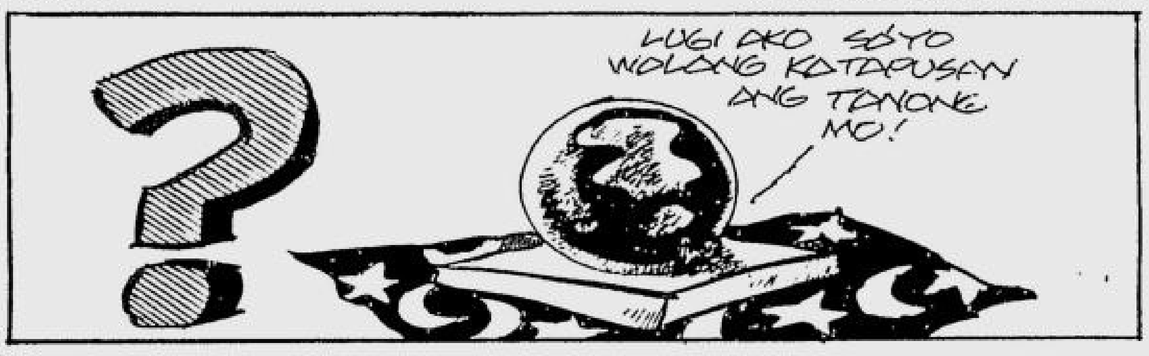
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


ANO YANG ARTWORK MO, KUYA.
ITO ANG "POINTILLISM", ESTILO NG PAGDROWING GAMIT NG MGA TULDOK LANG.
WOW ANG TIYAGA! ANO 'YAN, SELF PORTRAIT?
OO PANO MO NA HULAAN?
SA DAMI NG TAGYAWAT MO MULA SA JUNK FOOD, BAGAY SA MUKHA MO YANG POINTILLISM!

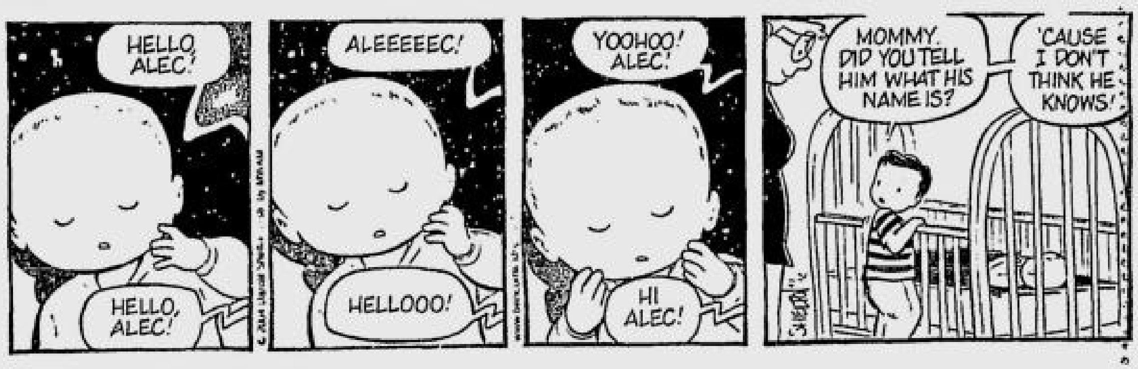
TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


LUGI AKO SA'YO WALANG KATAPUSAN ANG TANONG MO!

BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


HELLO, ALEC!
HELLO, ALEC!
ALEEEEEC!
HELLOOO!
YOOHOO! ALEC!
HI ALEC!
MOMMY, DID YOU TELL HIM WHAT HIS NAME IS?
'CAUSE I DON'T THINK HE KNOWS!

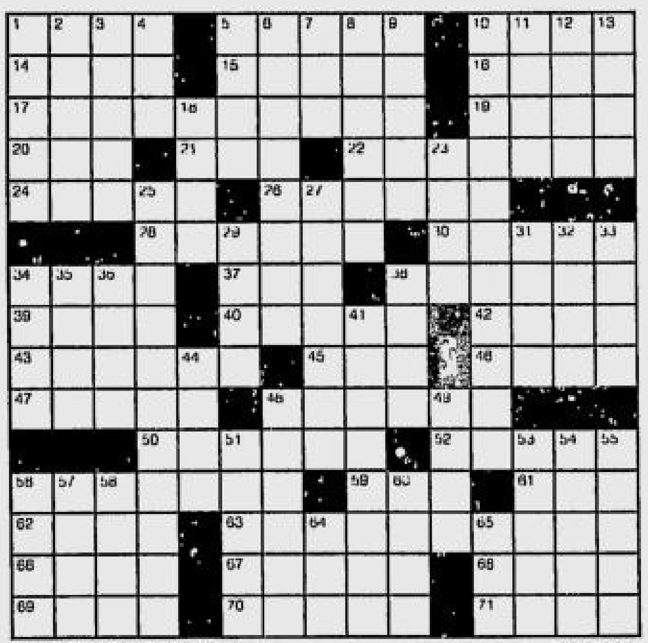
DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Supersonic number
5 Mends by reweaving
10 Vesuvian flow
14 Hautboy
15 Concorde, e.g.
16 Ardent
17 Verdi opera
19 Homeowner's document
20 Superlative ending
21 Library sec.
22 Makes available
24 Commandment verb
26 Real
28 Make confident
30 More chilled
34 Croat or Serb
37 Black cuckoo
38 Highest pitch
39 Unless, in law
40 More feeble
42 Travel stamp
43 Hinder
45 112.5 degrees from W
46 As previously said: Lat.
47 Procession of matadors
48 Museum lecturer
50 Prayer series
52 Gutter sites
56 Welcome place
59 Uncooked
61 Toronto's prov.
62 Cogito __ sum
63 French fabulist
66 Freeway fillers
67 School in Soissons
68 Marine shade
69 "Twittering Machine" painter
70 Hurled
71 Top off four walls

DOWN

1 Burrowing mammals
2 Discomfit
3 Terra follower
4 "I Saw __ Standing There"
5 Humorist Barry
6 Birds of a region
7 River inlet
8 Write music
9 Blunder
10 Fellini classic
11 Declare
12 Competed
13 Puts in more
18 Humanistic disciplines
23 So-so
25 Edith Piaf's signature song
27 Cardinal's color
29 Mall event
31 Footnote wd.
32 Ultimatum word
33 Paper quantity
34 Clipped-off piece
35 Peruvian capital
36 African cobras
38 Forest unit
41 Endive
44 Dire fate
48 Separate
49 Small salamander
51 Dresser, of sorts
53 See-through fabric
54 Ho-hum feeling
55 Girder material
56 Pack of cards
57 Evangelist Roberts
58 Fairy tale heavy
60 Over again
64 In favor of
65 Initial letters



By Robert Zimmerman
San Diego, CA
10/10/06

Monday's Puzzle Solved

J	E	S	T	■	H	A	S	N	T	■	I	D	E	A
U	G	L	I	■	A	B	H	O	R	■	T	A	M	S
G	O	O	N	■	W	E	A	V	E	■	S	U	C	H
■	■	W	A	L	K	A	W	A	Y	R	E	N	E	E
L	O	W	■	I	S	M	■	■	■	A	L	T	E	R
E	R	A	S	E	■	■	S	E	R	I	F	■	■	■
W	A	L	K	D	O	N	T	R	U	N	■	B	I	S
I	T	T	Y	■	R	O	A	S	T	■	M	O	N	A
S	E	Z	■	W	A	L	K	T	H	I	S	W	A	Y
■	■	■	B	E	L	L	E	■	■	R	U	I	N	S
A	S	C	I	I	■	■	■	S	A	M	■	E	E	O
W	A	L	K	R	I	G	H	T	B	A	C	K	■	■
F	L	U	E	■	D	I	A	R	Y	■	O	U	R	S
U	S	E	R	■	E	L	L	I	S	■	O	H	I	O
L	A	D	S	■	S	T	O	P	S	■	K	N	O	X

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10/10/06

HOROSCOPE

YOU BORN TODAY: You are intelligent and insightful. Your analytical mind gives you an excellent business savvy. You're also an excellent problem solver. Your home is not only beautiful, it runs efficiently. You have a positive frame of mind; hence, you always look for solutions. You're entering a year of fresh, new beginnings. Be open to new pathways.

Birthdate of: Bob Burnquist, pro skateboarder; Dale Earnhardt Jr., race-car driver; Brett Favre, quarterback

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): You might have a sudden windfall today. Gifts, goodies or favors from other people could come your way. Keep an open mind. Stay alert for opportunities from unexpected sources.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): A close friend might introduce you to someone new and different today. Or possibly, your partner or a close friend will do something that surprises you. Either way, time spent with others is not boring!

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): The arrival of new technology, or perhaps new staff, brings added interest to your job today. Some of you will get a surprise related to a small pet.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Flirtations and teasing conversations with someone might give you a thrill today. Children might also be a source of surprise. Accept invitations to social occasions.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Unexpected company might drop by your home today. Something surprising will definitely happen. A family member might shock you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): It's a busy day, in part because your mind is racing from topic to topic. You're excited about something. Siblings or relatives might be part of your plan today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Impulse buying and spontaneous purchases are likely today. (Keep your receipts.) You might also think of a new and different way of earning money. (Anything helps.)

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): You feel electrically charged today! You've got places to go, people to see and things to do. Do something different today. You want stimulating adventure.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): This is the kind of day where research can pay off. If you're looking for answers, dig deeply today. Your thinking is out-of-the-box; you have a fresh approach to everything.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): A friend might say or do something bizarre today. Or perhaps, you'll meet a real character. Something interesting awaits you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): You feel unusually bold and independent when talking to parents and bosses today. You've got bright ideas, and you want to run them up the flagpole to see if anyone salutes. (Do it.)

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): This is a great day to sign up for a course or to explore any kind of unusual study or training. You want to learn more. You want to push the sides of the envelope.

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

by Dave Green

7			4					5
	2			7	8		9	
		4			5	8		
	5	8						1
	4						2	
1						7	3	
		3	9			4		
	7		5	8			6	
6					3			2

Difficulty Level ★★

10/10

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HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.
Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

6	4	8	5	3	1	9	2	7
3	2	7	8	9	4	1	6	5
9	1	5	7	2	6	4	3	8
7	9	4	1	6	5	3	8	2
1	3	6	2	4	8	7	5	9
5	8	2	9	7	3	6	1	4
2	5	3	4	1	9	8	7	6
8	6	9	3	5	7	2	4	1
4	7	1	6	8	2	5	9	3

Difficulty Level ★

POWER PLANT CINEMA

Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

PULSE R13 2:30,4:30,6:30,8:30	THE DEPARTED R13 2:10,5:10,8:10	TALLADEGA NIGHTS: THE BALLAD OF RICKY BOBBY R13 1:10,3:25,5:40,7:55,10:10
FLYBOYS PG13 1:30,4:20,7:10	ZOOM G 1:00,3:00,5:00,7:00	THE DEPARTED R13 1:30,4:30,7:30,10:30

MOVIES AND SCREENING SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR VERIFICATION CALL 898-1440-41
MATINEE PHP 111.00 - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5:00 PM - FREE SEATING - MONDAY-FRIDAY.

GREENHILLS CINEMAS

GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA

THEATRE MALL

GREENHILLS

a landmark reinvented!

NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1	STEP UP // FLYBOYS 11:35 , 1:55 // 5:00 7:50 , 10:35 PG-13
CINEMA 2	TALLADEGA NIGHTS 12:40 , 3:15 , 5:45 8:15 , 10:40 R13

DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

PROMENADE

GREENHILLS

...a dinetertainment for all!

NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 3	THE DEPARTED 12:40, 3:45, 6:50, 9:55 R-13
CINEMA 4	PULSE 12:40 , 2:45 , 4:50 6:55 , 9:00 R-13
CINEMA 5	THE DEPARTED 10:20, 1:25, 4:30, 7:35, 10:40 R-13

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, CALL: 722 4496.

MUSIC MUSEUM

OCT. 13 , 2006	GENEVA C. , AIZA S. , TRUEFAITH , JAY-R	8:00 PM
OCT. 20 & 21 , 2006	GARY V. @ 23 "THE REPEAT"	8:00 PM

TEATRINO
PROMENADE GREENHILLS

EVERY MONDAY	DANCE NIGHT	7:00PM
EVERY WEDNESDAY	CERRUDO . CLASSICO	8:00PM
OCT. 12 , 19 , 26 , 2006	ISAY ALVAREZ & ROBERT SENA	8:30 PM
OCT. 14 , 21, 2006	AYEN LAUREL & RAYMUND LAUCHENGCO	8:00 PM

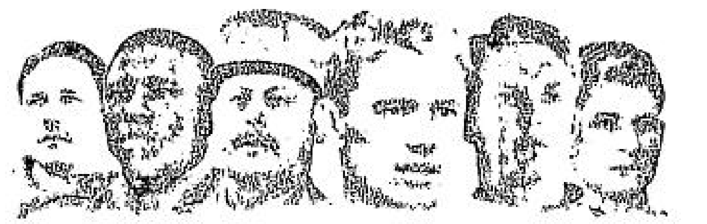
FOR INQUIRIES PLS CALL
722 4532 LOC 118

FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL: 721-6726 OR 721-0638

2ND WEEK

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

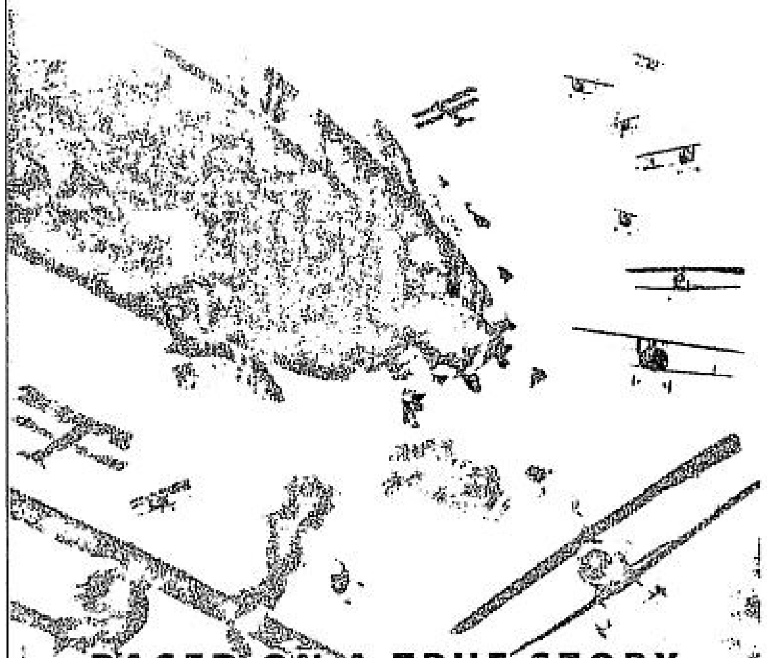
ALAMIN KUNG BAKIT
PINAG-USAPAN
NG BUONG MANILA.
HUWAG PALAMPASIN!



MARTIN HENDERSON · ABDUL SALIS · JEAN RENO · JAMES FRANCO · DAVID ELLISON · PHILIP WINCHESTER

FROM DEAN DEVLIN THE PRODUCER OF
"GODZILLA" AND "INDEPENDENCE DAY"

FLYBOYS



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Relive the golden era
of peace and love.
Of the Beatles and the
Beach Boys. Join the
Bloomfields in a
musical revival
of the '50s and '60s.

October 11, 2006
8:00 PM / Fuente Circle
FREE ADMISSION

Eastwood City
687 6770 loc 74 • 0917 8 EWCITY

EASTWOOD CINEMAS

DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City

For inquiries, call:
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

1	ZOOM 1:50, 4:00, 6:10, 8:20, 10:30 G	
2	THE DEPARTED 1:55, 5:05, 8:15, 11:15 R-13	
3	TALLADEGA NIGHTS 1:05, 3:35, 6:05, 8:35, 11:00 R-13	
4	FLYBOYS 1:45, 4:45 PG-13	STEP UP 8:35, 11:00 PG-13

SHANG CINEPLEX

① THE DEPARTED MTRCB R-13 12:30, 3:40, 6:50, 10:00	③ PULSE MTRCB R-13 1:25, 3:30, 5:35, 7:40, 9:45
② TALLADEGA NIGHTS MTRCB R-13 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00	④ STEP UP MTRCB PG-13 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
PREMIERE THEATRE	ZOOM MTRCB GP 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30

Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice

Catch the Cineplex Special

MONDAY AND TUESDAY SPECIALS

On Mondays and Tuesdays starting August 14, enjoy special prices of P99.00 for Cinemas 1-4, P120 for the Premiere Theatre (exclusive of food and drinks).
Not applicable to selected movies, on holidays, sneak previews and and in conjunction w/ other Shang Cineplex discounts and promos.
Specials last until Nov. 14, 2006. See posters and flyers for details.
[illegible] Series of 2006

Call 633-7851, loc. 171 or 633-2227 for more details.

Shangri-La Plaza

glorietta · G · ALABANG TOWN CENTER · AYALA CENTER CEBU · MARKET! MARKET! · Ayala Malls *lovemall*

AT THE CINEMAS

Reserve your tickets by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.
Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification, please call 729 7777

THX

G1 GLORIETTA 1	1 DOA: DEAD OR ALIVE	2 THE DEPARTED	3 PULSE	4 FIRST DAY HIGH
G4 GLORIETTA 4	1 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION	2 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION	3 THX CLOSED FOR RENOVATION GUARANTEED SEATS	
	4 TALLADEGA NIGHTS	5 STEP-UP	6 THE DEPARTED	7 PULSE
GB1	1 STEP-UP	2 THE DEPARTED		
GB3	1 THX PELICULA: 5TH SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL GUARANTEED SEATS	2 THX THE DEPARTED 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 11:20 GUARANTEED SEATS		
	3 FLYBOYS 1:30, 4:10 GUARANTEED SEATS	4 PULSE 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10, 11:10 GUARANTEED SEATS	5 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION GUARANTEED SEATS	
ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THX THE DEPARTED GUARANTEED SEATS	2 PULSE		
	3 STEP-UP	4 FLYBOYS	5 FIRST DAY HIGH	
ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 THE DEPARTED	2 SCOOP	3 THE BREED	4 FIRST DAY HIGH
M2 MARKET! MARKET!	1 DOA: DEAD OR ALIVE	2 THE DEPARTED		
	3 FIRST DAY HIGH	4 PULSE	5 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION	

At the Activity Center

Customer Service text hotline: 0917 6095900
Customer Service Numbers: Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 9pm
Greenbelt - 757 4853; from 11am to 9pm
Alabang Town Center - 842 2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324
Market! Market! - 886 7519

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Anson's Exhibit October 5 to 21, 2006	Federal Hardware Exhibit Oct. 6 to 11, 2006
AYALA CENTER CEBU	MARKET! MARKET!
Culminating Activity Sign Language Association of Cebu October 8, 2006	Call Center Job Fair October 6 to 7, 2006

GREENBELT — Cathay Pacific's Planes Exhibit
October 6 to 12

Greenbelt Onstage — Repertory Philippines presents
THE BOOR & THE PROPOSAL
at REP's Globe Theater - September 16 to October 8, 2006
For inquiries, pls. call 887-0710

Ayala MUSEUM — Homecoming of 21st Asian International Art Exhibition Philippines
September 19 to October 1, 2006
For inquiries, please call 757-7117 to 21 loc 29 or visit www.ayalamuseum.org

PELICULA PELIKULA

THE 5TH SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL

Ayala Malls CINEMAS

October 10, 2006, Greenbelt 3 Cinema 1

4:30PM HISTORIA DE UN BESO
7:00PM NINETTE
9:30PM TIOVIVO C. 1950

Instituto Cervantes
(T) 526-1482
HTTP://MANILACERVANTES.ES

GREENBELT

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glorietta

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movietime

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WEEKEND SCREENING

October 13 (Friday), 7:00 pm
October 14 (Saturday), 11:30 am • 2:30 pm
October 15 (Sunday) 11:30 am • 2:30 pm

Ticket at P150

COMING SOON

•Oct 18	ANNAPOLIS	•Nov 1	INVINCIBLE
•Oct 25	STICK IT	•Nov 22	THANK YOU FOR SMOKING

METRO MANILA

SM MALL OF ASIA 556-0104

IMAX

T-REX
11:00AM 12:30PM 2:00PM 8:30PM 10:00PM

ANT BULLY
3:30PM

SUPERMAN RETURNS
5:30PM Admission Price- P350

1 DEAD OR ALIVE
2 PULSE
3 THE DEPARTED
4 TALLADEGA NIGHTS
5 FLY BOYS
6 ZOOM

PREMIERE CINEMA
FIRST DAY HIGH

DIRECTOR'S CLUB
THE DEPARTED

CENTERSTAGE
STEP UP

CINEMA 1
THE DEPARTED

CINEMA 2
ZOOM

633-8976

SM NORTH EDSA 929-5452

1 THE DEPARTED
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 DEVIL WEARS PRADA
4 STEP UP
5 PULSE
6 DEAD OR ALIVE
7 THE DEPARTED
8 FIRST DAY HIGH
9 ZOOM
10 TALLADEGA NIGHTS
11 THE BREED
12 FLY BOYS

SM MEGACINEMA 633-1901

1 THE DEPARTED
2 THE BREED
3 PHILIPPINE IDOL
4 FIRST DAY HIGH
5 STEP UP
6 DEAD OR ALIVE
7 TALLADEGA NIGHTS
8 ZOOM
9 FLY BOYS
10 PULSE
11 POSSESSED BY EVIL
12 WICKER MAN

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 935-0749

1 SCOOP
2 THE BREED
3 CRANK
4 DEAD OR ALIVE
5 STEP UP
6 FIRST DAY HIGH
7 THE DEPARTED
8 ZOOM
9 PULSE
10 YOU ARE THE ONE
11 FLY BOYS
12 MONSTER HOUSE

SM CITY STA. MESA 716-1416

1 THE DEPARTED
2 DEAD OR ALIVE
3 PULSE
4 STEP UP
5 FIRST DAY HIGH
6 WICKER MAN
7 THE BREED
8 YOU ARE THE ONE
9 FLY BOYS
10 ZOOM

SM CITY SAN LAZARO 786-2488

1 THE DEPARTED
2 PULSE
3 STEP UP
4 DEAD OR ALIVE
5 THE BREED
6 FIRST DAY HIGH

SM CITY SOUTHMALL 806-6888

1 PULSE
2 THE DEPARTED
3 DEAD OR ALIVE
4 FIRST DAY HIGH
5 STEP UP
6 INGRATA
7 ZOOM
8 FLY BOYS
9 THE BREED

SM CITY BICUTAN 776-3055

1 THE DEPARTED
2 STEP UP
3 FIRST DAY HIGH
4 FLY BOYS

SM CITY MANILA 523-0240

1 FLY BOYS
2 PULSE
3 STEP UP
4 DEAD OR ALIVE
5 FIRST DAY HIGH
6 THE DEPARTED
7 THE BREED
8 ZOOM
9 TALLADEGA NIGHTS
10 CRANK
11 WICKER MAN
12 POSSESSED BY EVIL

SM CITY DASMARINAS (046)4333301-04

1 REINCARNATION
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 YOU, ME AND DUPREE
4 ZOOM

SM VALENZUELA 293-3917

1 THE DEPARTED
2 DEAD OR ALIVE
3 FIRST DAY HIGH
4 FLY BOYS

SM CITY SUCAT 829-4975

1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED

movietime PROMO

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bags
watches

THE GUARDIAN IN SM CINEMAS OCTOBER 11

Distributed by Buena Vista International

MTRCB Rating: PG-13

SM CITY BACOOR (046)417-3868

1 THE BREED
2 ZOOM
3 THE DEPARTED
4 DEAD OR ALIVE
5 FLY BOYS
6 FIRST DAY HIGH
7 YOU ARE THE ONE
8 SNAKES ON A PLANE

SM CITY CLARK (045)625-5844-45

1 THE DEPARTED
2 SNAKES ON A PLANE
3 WICKER MAN
4 ZOOM
5 DOMINO
6 FIRST DAY HIGH

SM CITY MARILAO (044)9332013-17

1 DEAD OR ALIVE
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 SNAKES ON A PLANE
4 STAY ALIVE

LUZON

SM CITY BATANGAS 885-6401-04

1 MORTUARY
2 DEVIL WEARS PRADA
3 FIRST DAY HIGH
4 ZOOM

SM CITY PAMPANGA (045)9637661-85

1 THE DEPARTED
2 ZOOM
3 YOU ARE THE ONE
4 WICKER MAN
5 PAGDADALAGA NI MAXIMO OLIVEROS
6 FIRST DAY HIGH

SM CITY LIPA

1 DEVIL WEARS PRADA
2 DEAD OR ALIVE
3 ZOOM
4 FIRST DAY HIGH

SM CITY LUCENA (042)7108977-80

1 ZOOM
2 SNAKES ON A PLANE
3 JOHN TUCKER MUST DIE
4 FIRST DAY HIGH

SM CITY BAGUIO (074)6197838-39

1 THE DEPARTED
2 SNAKES ON A PLANE
3 THE BREED
4 FIRST DAY HIGH

SM SUPERCENTER MOLINO (046)474-3100

1 FIRST DAY HIGH
2 THE DEPARTED
3 ZOOM
4 DEAD OR ALIVE

SM CITY STA. ROSA (049)5341265-66

1 FIRST DAY HIGH
2 SNAKES ON A PLANE
3 FLY BOYS
4 YOU, ME AND DUPREE

SM CITY CEBU (032)231-3878

1 DEVIL WEARS PRADA
2 THE BREED
3 THE DEPARTED
4 SCOOP
5 PAGDADALAGA NI MAXIMO OLIVEROS
6 WICKER MAN
7 FIRST DAY HIGH
8 DEAD OR ALIVE

VISAYAS MINDANAO

SM CITY ILOILO (033)3209422

1 PAGDADALAGA NI MAXIMO OLIVEROS
2 RESERVED
3 JOHN TUCKER MUST DIE
4 FIRST DAY HIGH
5 DEVIL WEARS PRADA
6 SCOOP
7 RESERVED
8 WICKER MAN

SM CITY DAVAO (082)2976998

1 THE DEPARTED
2 PAGDADALAGA NI MAXIMO OLIVEROS
3 FIRST DAY HIGH
4 DEAD OR ALIVE
5 WICKER MAN
6 THE BREED

SM CITY CAGAYAN (088)859-2884

1 SCOOP
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 PAGDADALAGA NI MAXIMO OLIVEROS
4 DEVIL WEARS PRADA

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

SHOWTIME

EVENT CALENDAR

GET 2 TICKETS FOR FREE!

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2006 The Power of Music

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HALE

OCTOBER 20, 2006
SM MEGAMALL CINEMA 9 • 9:00PM

VISIT YOUR NEAREST POPPERS SNACKBARS AT THE SM CINEMAS:

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- SM NORTH EDSA Cinema 7 (0922-8191475)
- SM MANILA Cinema 6 (0922-8191476)
- SM CENTERPOINT Cinema 3 (0922-8191440)
- SM MALL OF ASIA Cinema 4 (0922-8191468)

*For further details: please call 0922-7589014, 0920-9276293 or 714-3367

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PUBLIC ADVISORY: To all HALE ticket holders, please be advised that the concert venue is transferred from SM Centerpoint Cinema 1 to SM Megamall Cinema 9.

*FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA

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MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA 632-9116

1 THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA • THX
12:30 2:55 5:20 7:45 10:00

2 THE DEPARTED
12:30 3:40 6:50 10:00

3 FLY BOYS
1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00

4 PULSE
1:40 3:45 5:50 7:55 10:00

5 TALLADEGA NIGHTS
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

6 FIRST DAY HIGH
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

7 DEAD OR ALIVE
1:40 3:45 5:50 7:55 10:00

8 ZOOM
1:25 3:30 5:35 7:40 9:50

9 STEP UP
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

10 TWILIGHT DANCERS
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 THE DEPARTED
12:30 3:40 6:50 10:00

2 TWILIGHT DANCERS
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

3 FLY BOYS 11:20 2:00 4:40
STEP UP 7:40 10:00

4 FIRST DAY HIGH
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

5 DEAD OR ALIVE
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00

6 TALLADEGA NIGHTS
11:45 1:45 3:45 5:50 7:55 10:00

7 PULSE
12:35 2:50 5:05 7:25 9:50

METRO EAST 682-8193 • 682-8199

1 DEAD OR ALIVE
12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00

2 FIRST DAY HIGH
11:15 1:45 4:15 6:45 9:10

3 THE DEPARTED
11:20 2:30 5:40 9:00

4 FLY BOYS
12:00 3:00 6:00 9:00

5 STEP UP
12:00 2:10 4:30 6:50 9:10

6 ZOOM
1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00

7 PULSE
12:30 2:40 4:50 7:00 9:10

8 THE BREED
1:40 3:45 5:50 7:30 9:10

NOVALICHES 935-3231 / 935-3229-30

1 THE DEPARTED
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 PULSE
4 FLY BOYS

CITISQUARE MALABON 288-2575

1 AN AMERICAN HAUNTING
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

PIONEER 687-5378

1 THE DEPARTED
2 PULSE
3 FIRST DAY HIGH
4 FLY BOYS

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1 FIRST DAY HIGH
2 YOU, ME AND DUPREE
3 FLY BOYS
4 TWILIGHT DANCERS

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1 THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 ZOOM
4 DEAD OR ALIVE

DASMARIÑAS (046) 852-2126 (046) 416-1332

1 ZOOM
2 TWILIGHT DANCERS
3 POSSESSED BY EVIL
4 FIRST DAY HIGH

ANGELES (045) 892-2348

1 THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT 2
2 TWILIGHT DANCERS
3 FIRST DAY HIGH
4 THE DEPARTED

IMUS (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188

1 THE DEPARTED
2 AN AMERICAN HAUNTING
3 FIRST DAY HIGH
4 TWILIGHT DANCERS

STARMILLS (045) 875-1927 (045) 961-6270

1 POSSESSED BY EVIL
2 TWILIGHT DANCERS
3 FIRST DAY HIGH
4 THE WICKER MAN
5 SNAKES ON A PLANE
6 THE DEPARTED

BACOLOD (034) 441-0463 (034) 441-0469

1 JOHN TUCKER MUST DIE
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 SNAKES ON A PLANE
4 CRANK
5 THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA
6 ZOOM

ILOILO (033) 336-8070

1 JOHN TUCKER MUST DIE
2 FIRST DAY HIGH
3 TWILIGHT DANCERS
4 SCOOP

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ROUNDUP

PATRICK Dempsey

'Grey's Anatomy' season 2

A love triangle surfaces between Meredith Grey (Ellen Pompeo), Derek Shepherd (Patrick Dempsey) and Addison Shepherd (Kate Walsh) in season 2 of "Grey's Anatomy."

But Meredith attempts to work with Addison, even as the former is devastated by the latest blow to her love life.

The series' all-new episodes air every Wednesday at 9 p.m., Thursday at 12:30 a.m., 3:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. on Star World.

Discovering sharks

"Shark Week" returns to the screen today and tomorrow at 9 p.m. on Discovery Channel.

The series showcases important findings on shark behavior and images of the species filmed by some of the world's leading underwater cinematographers.

'Poseidon' on video

The action-packed "Poseidon" is now available on DVD from Warner Home Video.

The movie is a story of a monstrous rogue wave that capsizes a luxury cruise ship, flipping it upside down.

A group of survivors search for an escape through an intense obstacle course of fiery confines and a flooded interior.

The movie stars Kurt Russell, Emmy Rossum, Richard Dreyfuss, Josh Lucas and Mike Vogel. Directed by Wolfgang Petersen.

"POSEIDON"

Radio idol

An amateur is about to get his break to become the next RX deejay, with Monster Radio RX 93.1 and Astring-o-sol Extreme's launching of "Radio Idol 2006," the radio reality show that introduced Gelli Victor and Sanya Smith.

A panel of judges evaluates the performance of the idol wannabes while listeners help in the selection by voting for their favorite candidates via text.

The winner, to be announced on the finals night at the end of October, goes home with P20,000 and a contract to work with RX.93.1 as the newest jock.